

We fully endorse the view of the distinguished representative of Japan, that—and again I quote—“this is certainly not conducive to the creation of international conditions propitious for the furtherance of the principle we stand for.”

The moral opinion of the world may yet have some influence on the Government of the Union of South Africa to moderate its racial policies, but it is evident to us that an organization of sovereign states which does not respect the sovereignty of a member state will make little impression upon a government which chooses to attend to its own affairs without need to the advice of other governments.

CANADA ACCEDES TO UN CONVENTION

The Canadian Delegation to the Eleventh Session of the General Assembly announced on January 29 Canada's decision to accede to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, and the Instrument of Accession was deposited with the Secretary-General the following day.

The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly at its Seventh Session in 1952 and came into force on July 7, 1954. Canada is the twenty-sixth country to become party to the Convention. Eighteen other countries have signed but not yet ratified it.

The principle of equality of rights for men and women is embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, and the purpose of the Convention is to implement this principle in the field of political rights and public service. It provides that women shall be entitled to vote and be eligible for election, and also to hold public office and exercise all public functions established by national law on equal terms with men and without discrimination.

STATUS OF WOMEN

The General Assembly adopted by a vote of 47 (including Canada) to 2 with 2 abstentions a Convention on the Nationality of Married Women which stipulates that marriage or divorce shall not automatically affect the nationality of the wife and provides for certain privileged naturalization procedures for alien wives. The inclusion of an appropriate territorial clause will allow metropolitan states with dependent territories to accede on behalf of those territories.

The Convention, which was signed on behalf of Canada on February 20, was prepared by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women on the initiative of Cuba and revised by the Assembly's Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Assembly elected V. K. Wellington Koo, of China, to fill the vacancy in the International Court of Justice caused by the death of Judge Hsu Mo of China, and decided to dispatch a United Nations Commission to French Togoland to examine “the entire situation in the territory resulting from the practical application of the new statute” recently put into force there and “the conditions under which it is being applied”.