

# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES



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## THE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY

Text of an address delivered by General A.G.L. McNaughton to the National Executive, United Nations Association in Canada, at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto on March 12, 1949.

I count it a very great privilege to have the opportunity to speak briefly to this gathering today because you who are here represent the central direction through which a great organization has been set up in Canada for the very important purpose of giving support to the United Nations. I am more particularly happy to speak to you today because it is one of the accepted responsibilities of your association to insure that what is happening at Lake Success and in United Nations activities elsewhere is known about and understood by the Public of Canada. For it is essential to provide a firm basis of a correctly and widely informed public opinion duly expressed so that we can support our national leaders in the Parliament and Government of our country and encourage all concerned to give that close and sympathetic attention to the United Nations which is requisite if the aspirations of the founders are to come to full fruition. I know of no cause which is more worth while nor of any which is more inspiring and indeed there can be no effort which is more hopeful -- and I use the word advisedly -- for the future welfare and happiness of the peoples of the world.

At this present day the United Nations has not yet complete its Third Session but already there is literally an amazing accomplishment to the credit of the organization. This is made up of the sum of the very significant advances which have been achieved in each of the component councils, commissions, committees, and specialized agencies. Everywhere you look -- in the groups dealing with economic and social questions; in the groups concerned with the problems of food and trade and transport, with labour and health, with refugees, with communications, with postal services, with education and scientific and cultural matters -- in everyone of these great categories of endeavour you find men and women from all over the world coming together, stating their problems without fear or favour, consulting with one another bringing their minds into agreement and hammering out solutions by the method of debate -- solutions which are then recommended to the nations of the world and, in many cases, promptly adopted.

In all these matters it is evident that accomplishment is on a rising curve and it seems that with each step forward the habit of agreement becomes somewhat less difficult. All of which sets a very inspiring example and stimulus to those of us who have to labour in the field of the political and security questions which today trouble the nations, principally by reason of the rift between East and West for which no bridge has yet been found and which therefore remains an ever-present difficulty and anxiety in every question which comes under consideration.