

more closely into line with its capacity to pay. In the revised scales Canada's assessment was reduced slightly in ILO (from 4.28 to 4.03 per cent) and increased by comparable amounts in ICAO (from 4.40 to 4.53 per cent) and in FAO (from 4.11 to 4.54 per cent). The reduction in the ILO assessment was made possible by the contributions of new members including the Federal Republic of Germany. The increases in the assessments for the other Agencies were principally based on Canada's growing national income.

In discussing the scales of assessment of the Specialized Agencies, Canadian representatives continued to stress the need for fair distribution of financial burdens among all participating states. While accepting reductions in the United States contributions to UNESCO and WHO, Canadian representatives pressed for upward adjustments in the United States contributions to other Agencies, including ILO, FAO and ICAO, where the United States contributions have, for a variety of reasons, been unduly low. Canadian representatives have also objected to the present arrangements whereby Canada and a number of other countries pay more on a per capita basis than the United States in a number of the Specialized Agencies. While these inequities will be partially removed as United States contributions are adjusted, Canada has nevertheless pressed for formal introduction of the per capita principle in the Specialized Agencies. Largely as a result of Canadian efforts, the principle has been adopted in WHO and has been accepted as an "objective" in UNESCO.

Collection of Contributions

Most member countries have been prompt in paying their contributions to the United Nations. By June 30, 1952, member states had met the whole of their financial obligations for the period to the end of 1949 and had paid 96.3 per cent and 90.63 per cent respectively towards their 1950 and 1951 assessments. They had also paid almost 23 per cent of their 1952 assessments.

Despite this generally favourable record, the continuing inability of the National Government of China to meet its financial commitments and the growing arrears of a few other members were imposing a strain on the organization's financial resources during the latter part of the period under review. Although China was able to pay all of its assessments up to and including 1949 and almost one half of its 1950 contribution, its unpaid obligations to the end of 1951 totalled more than \$3.6 million. For the same period, the arrears of all other members amounted to \$1,645,000 of which sum Argentina (with arrears of almost \$900,000) owed more than half.

The experience of the Specialized Agencies in collecting contributions has generally paralleled that of the United Nations. By far the largest proportion of arrears is owed by China and a relatively small number of slow-paying members. A special financial problem has arisen, however, in WHO, UNESCO, and ICAO, because of what are known as "inactive" members. In 1949 and 1950 the Soviet Union, eight other Cominform states, and China, formally signified their desire to withdraw from WHO and immediately stopped attending meetings and paying contributions. For constitu-