

administrative framework of international order. The record of United Nations achievement in these and many other affairs is very great and too little known.

But substantial, even imposing, as such an account might be, you would not be satisfied with it. Nor should you be. For people everywhere, at this moment, are looking to the United Nations for one thing above all these others - to be saved, to be saved from the paralyzing threat, from the dreadful fact of war. And human beings will rightly judge the United Nations not by its social, its economic, its humanitarian achievements but by its capacity to achieve the first purpose stated in the very first article of its Charter - the maintenance of "international peace and security". It was something much more radical, much more difficult, much greater than a vast international Community Chest that the victorious nations worked to build at San Francisco in 1945. And whatever the noble role of its accomplishment in economics and law, in charity and enlightenment, the United Nations will be judged by history, by one test only - did it or did it not "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war"?

And so it is to this first purpose and principle of the Charter that I venture to direct your attention this afternoon.

Let me begin by recalling to you the words of the first part of the Charter's first article:

"The purposes of the United Nations are:

(1) to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression..."

These words, framed six years ago, are as topical as today's headline. For it was in support of this provision that, in June of last year, the United Nations moved to stop the aggression which had burst out in Korea. And it was this decision which, in turn, brought about significant changes within the United Nations.

When the Sixth Session of the General Assembly opens in Paris on November 6, twelve days from today, it is likely that the most important debates will relate to Asian questions, especially those arising from events in Korea. It is almost certain that discussion of the Korean issue will lead to a general examination of this basic problem - the role of the United Nations in maintaining collective security.

In a world divided and confused by the aggressive policies of Soviet imperialism, the performance by the United Nations of its primary role in the maintenance of peace has become infinitely complicated and difficult. As early as the Second Session of the General Assembly in the Fall of 1947, the present Prime Minister, then Secretary of State for External Affairs, referred to a growing feeling in Canada that the United Nations, because of the experience of the Security Council, was not showing itself equal to the discharge of its primary task of promoting international confidence and ensuring national security. Mr. St. Laurent then went on to say: "Nations, in their search for peace