

As to the reference to the high rate of tuberculosis amongst refugees quoted by the distinguished representative of the Soviet Union from an official source, I find nothing at all surprising in this statement. Canada has enjoyed for many years good social services and a high living standard. It is not at all surprising if persons who leave their own countries and come to our shores and who have lived for years under less satisfactory conditions, should include a number who are not physically strong and who may in time become ill. The statement to which the representative of the Soviet Union refers and which was to the effect that the incidence of tuberculosis amongst displaced persons is two and one half times greater than amongst Canadians, was made by the Ontario Minister of Health in 1952. In that year, the death rate from tuberculosis in Ontario, which has a population of over four million, was eight point four in one hundred thousand. If the representative of the Soviet Union or others here are interested in going into the matter and making a comparison of statistics in other countries of the world, they will find that this figure is in fact the very lowest at any time anywhere in the world. Even if among displaced persons who have come to our country from countries ravaged by years of war and who have been subject to other hardships, the tuberculosis rate in the early years after they arrive should be two and one half greater, the percentage in comparison to world figures remains low. The Ontario Department of Health is properly concerned with keeping this figure to a minimum.

In addition to activities in the nature of strictly legal protection or aid, and the seeking of permanent solutions, the High Commissioner has had the appallingly difficult task of attempting to provide sufficient emergency aid to the most needy groups of refugees coming within the mandate of his office. Surely the conscience of mankind must be moved by the desperate situation of many thousands of persons living a precarious existence in camps including sick, aged and infirm, and children. I have heard from Dr. Goedhart himself a simple moving story of a young boy from one such camp who knew no other life and who asked the question "Who are the people who live in houses?". We were indeed glad to note in the High Commissioner's statement that prospects for resettlement of the unfortunate European refugees in China, of whom a number are completely dependent on the Emergency Fund for a livelihood, are brighter than a year ago, and of the special efforts which are being made in regard to those in camps. It was most encouraging to read that the generous grant of the Ford Foundations has been of such importance in demonstrating that the social assimilation of refugees is a problem for which solutions can be found.

Permanent solutions and a final end to this appalling situation must remain our aim. In the meantime, emergency aid will be required and it is our earnest hope that the further governmental contributions to the fund which are so urgently required will be quickly forthcoming.

The Canadian delegation will therefore be happy to vote for the Resolution A/C.3/L.335/Rev.2 providing for the continuation of the office of the High