

Yugoslavia, for instance, claiming that this proposal was a disguised attack on the rule of unanimity amongst the permanent members of the Security Council.

94. Amendments to the United States proposal were put forward by various delegations. These included a Canadian amendment which would have added to the functions of the proposed committee by giving it the task both of considering the extent to which resolutions of the General Assembly had been put into effect and also of initiating preliminary consideration of provisional items on the Assembly's agenda.

95. Eventually a Sub-committee was established, under the Chairmanship of the Canadian representative, to consider these various amendments and to prepare a composite resolution. After discussion, the Sub-committee agreed on a joint resolution and this was adopted both by the Political Committee and by the General Assembly - in the latter case by 41 votes in favour, 6 against and 6 abstentions. Canada voted in favour of the joint resolution. The Soviet Union and the other eastern European states, which had bitterly opposed the establishment of this Interim Committee, announced their decision not to participate in it and reiterated their view that its establishment was a breach of the Charter.

96. On October 18, 1947, in the General Assembly, the Canadian representative made known his country's view on the proposed establishment of the Interim Committee. He said that the failure of the United Nations to achieve success was largely due to the failure of the Security Council to agree within itself. One way of escape from this dilemma lay in expanding and strengthening the functions of the General Assembly, and it was in this light that Canada saw the value of the Interim Committee. In the Canadian view there was no doubt that the Interim Committee was constitutional under the Charter. The Canadian delegation felt that this Interim Committee should not be given wide powers at its inception, but should be allowed to take up all matters relating to peace and security which were within the competence of the General Assembly. The Canadian representative concluded by saying: "If the experiment which we are contemplating will have the effect of making the organization more effective, and that is our only purpose in supporting it, it will repay a thousandfold the effort which we shall expend upon it. The Canadian delegation will gladly co-operate in making the experiment in the hope that the instrument which we are creating may help speedily to remove the circumstances which make it necessary."

97. The Interim Committee held its first meetings in January of this year and ultimately agreed to establish three main Sub-committees to deal with: (a) proposals and recommendations dealing with the general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security (Sub-committee 2); (b) the problem of voting procedure in the Security Council (Sub-committee 3, of which Canada is a member); (c) recommendations concerning the establishment of a permanent committee of the General Assembly (Sub-committee 4). These three Sub-committees have held numerous meetings and their recommendations have been considered by the Interim Committee itself. It is likely that all three of these subjects will come up for extensive discussion at the present session of the General Assembly in Paris.