

of the statute and a member of the twelve-power group which prepared the later draft submitted to the Conference. It is a member of the Preparatory Commission and one of the group of five advanced atomic powers whose ratifications are of special effect in bringing the Statute into force, and is expected to be one of the five countries to be specially designated for membership of the Board of Governors by virtue of their pre-eminent position in atomic matters. These various developments reflect general recognition of Canada's advanced atomic energy programme and of Canada's position as a major producer of uranium<sup>1</sup>.

The General Assembly at its eleventh session decided that there should be held in 1958 under United Nations auspices a second international conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, to pursue and expand the valuable work achieved by the successful conference held in Geneva in 1955. Plans and preparations for this second conference are being worked out by the Secretary-General's Advisory Committee on Atomic Energy, on which Canada is represented.

Apart from these developments arising from President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" proposal to the General Assembly on December 8, 1953, several of the Specialized Agencies are planning or have undertaken programmes involving atomic energy matters in one way or another. These are normal elements in the activities of these Agencies, and the appearance in this connection of atomic energy considerations is a reflection of the fact that atomic energy is now coming to be a factor in many branches of scientific, economic and social affairs. It is to be expected that the International Atomic Energy Agency when it is established will have primary responsibility for international activities in the field of peaceful application of atomic energy; it will also serve as a focus and co-ordinating centre, for the aspects relating to atomic energy, of the activities in their own areas of responsibility of the various Specialized Agencies.

### Regional Economic Commissions

There are three regional economic commissions which report to the Economic and Social Council: the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) with headquarters in Geneva; the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) with headquarters in Santiago, Chile; and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), whose headquarters are in Bangkok, Thailand. Meetings of these regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies provide countries of the areas and other interested countries with opportunities to foster trade among themselves, discuss common economic problems, and co-operate in measures for furthering the economy of the regions. The secretariats of the regional economic commissions, which form an integral part of the United Nations Secretariat, publish annual economic surveys, and collect and publish numerous statistical bulletins and economic studies related to the regions. No economic commissions have

<sup>1</sup>The Canadian Government in March 1957 introduced in Parliament a resolution expressing approval of the Statute of the Agency. Passage of this resolution by the House of Commons on April 12, following earlier approval in the Senate, cleared the way for subsequent ratification of the Statute by the Government.