

External Affairs  
Supplementary Paper

No. 57/6 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Statement by Senator David Croll in the Second  
Committee of the United Nations General Assembly,  
New York, on February 13, 1957.

My Delegation does not consider it necessary to speak on every item and on every resolution which comes before this Committee. However, the trend of the discussion on the subject of International Economic Co-operation has been such that it is desirable for my Delegation to make a statement reflecting the Canadian position.

As you know, Canada is a member of the Economic and Social Council and took part in its 22nd Session. I would like to begin, therefore, by referring those members of the Committee, who may be interested in Canada's attitude, to the statement made by the Canadian Delegation on July 18, 1956 and to the statements which my Delegation made in the Economic Committee. Nevertheless, the world economic and political situation has changed even since last summer and it is necessary to reassess our position in the light of present circumstances and the resolutions now before this committee.

My Delegation believes that to some extent we have been talking at cross purposes in this Committee in the last few days in discussing international machinery for promoting trade co-operation. The distinguished delegate of Poland commented that there were those who considered that everything is for the best in the best of all possible worlds.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation strongly supports Resolution A/C.2L.301 submitted by Argentina and six other nations. We believe that resolution is a faithful, realistic and practical attempt to reflect the current position in respect to international economic co-operation, but we do not believe that the existing organizations for the promotion of international trade are perfect. Indeed, I think it might be possible to say that no international organization can be expected to be perfect, since it will invariably be established on the basis of compromise. It is for this reason that Canada voted in favour of ECOSOC Resolution 614 (XXII)A. Members will note that this resolution invites the government states of the United Nations to submit at an early date to the Secretary-General comments concerning international machinery for trade co-operation. Our vote for this resolution expressed the willingness of the Government of Canada to join with other governments in such a review of existing international trade machinery as that envisaged in the ECOSOC Resolution. We hope that useful results will flow from this study.