

portunity to emphasize the important place that we assign to the United Nations in the Realm of international relations. The United Nations was established to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations and to achieve international co-operation in solving problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature. The Charter laid down these objectives and created the machinery designed to carry them to completion. In the twelve years of its existence, the United Nations has developed this machinery and adjusted its methods to meet the demands of a troubled world. The organization has had its difficulties and its setbacks. But in many important and dangerous issues its influence for peace has been so strong, and its facilities for conciliation so effective, that we must recognize its preservation and development as essential to our hopes for a more peaceful and prosperous world. It is encouraging to note that accumulating experience is constantly adding to the organization's ability to act as an effective instrument of mediation and of international co-operation in a great variety of fields.

"The very important but often unheralded economic and humanitarian aspects of United Nations work are an excellent example of the forward strides which can and have been made. Outstanding in this field is the aid to underdeveloped countries which has been given through United Nations programmes of technical assistance and the advances in social and physical well-being which have been achieved throughout the world by the Specialized Agencies.

"Because the United Nations is but the sum of its parts, we cannot expect fruitful and satisfactory results from its deliberations unless we ourselves are prepared to give full support to its aims and to its decisions. Therefore, we should today renew our determination to strengthen and develop the United Nations as the main safeguard for peace in this troubled world."

PREPARED SOCIAL LEGISLATION: The Government has given notice that it plans to introduce legislation designed to amend:

(1) The Old Age Security Act to increase the amount of monthly pension payable thereunder to persons 70 years and over fifty-five dollars per month, to reduce the basic residence requirements for pensioners from twenty years to ten years and to increase the length of permissible temporary absences of pensioners from Canada from three to six months.

(2) The Old Age Assistance Act to increase to fifty-five dollars per month the maximum amount of assistance in respect of which payments may be made to the provinces under the provisions of that Act, to reduce the basic

residence requirement for recipients, persons 65-69 years, from twenty years to ten years and to increase the total amount of allowable income, inclusive of assistance, by one hundred and twenty dollars a year to \$960 in the case of an unmarried person, and two hundred and forty dollars a year to \$1,620 in the case of a married person.

(3) The Blind Persons Act to increase to fifty-five dollars per month the maximum amount of allowance in respect of which payments may be made to the provinces under the provisions of that Act, and to increase the total amount of allowable income, inclusive of allowance, by one hundred and twenty dollars a year in the case of an unmarried person and two hundred and forty dollars a year in the case of a married person.

(4) The Disabled Persons Act to increase to fifty-five dollars per month the maximum amount of allowance in respect of which payments may be made to the provinces under the provisions of that Act, to provide, subject to regulations for payments in respect of certain additional persons who are patients in institutions, and to increase the total amount of allowable income, inclusive of allowance, by one hundred and twenty dollars a year to \$960 in the case of an unmarried person and two hundred and forty dollars a year to \$1,620 in the case of a married person.

BUILDING REACTOR: The Atomic Energy Control Board has issued to the University of Toronto a permit for the construction of a sub-critical reactor in the basement of the Wallberg Memorial Building on the University Campus. Permission to operate this facility, however, will not be granted until it has been completed to the satisfaction of the Board and until detailed operating procedures have been submitted by the University and approved by the Board.

Before the permit was granted, the health and safety aspects of the proposed project were carefully checked by the Board's Reactor Safety Advisory Committee. In their consideration of this project the permanent members of that Committee were joined by representatives of the Ontario Departments of Health and Labour and by the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto.

A sub-critical reactor, is not strictly speaking a nuclear reactor since it is too small to support a nuclear chain reaction. It is, however, a very valuable tool for training students in the theory and operation of nuclear reactors and it can also be used for research.

The natural uranium metal required for the reactor, amounting to some three tons and valued at \$100,000, is being supplied on loan by Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited.