

CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

GEN. MCNAUGHTON PRESIDES: The 397th meeting of the Security Council -- the first to be held this year, was declared open by the President, General A.G.L. McNaughton, who welcomed to the Council the three new members, Cuba, Egypt and Norway. General McNaughton praised the record of the retiring members, Belgium, Colombia and Syria, and thanked his predecessor in the Presidency, Fernand Van Langehove (Belgium) for his distinguished services.

Dr. José Arce (Argentina) associated himself with the President's appreciation of the services of Belgium, Colombia and Syria on the Council.

Dr. Alberto Inocente Alvarez (Cuba) thanked the President for his words.

Mahmoud Bey Fawzi (Egypt) also expressed his appreciation of the President's welcome to the new members.

Mr. Fawzi praised particularly the contribution of Faris El Khouri who had represented Syria on the Security Council. In a way, he said, he felt he was succeeding Mr. El Khouri, since Council members, although representing the totality of UN members, also represented certain geographical regions.

Finn Moe (Norway) thanked the President for his welcome. The Norwegian people were well aware of the great responsibility connected with membership of the Council. The Norwegian delegation would do its utmost, he said, to help dispel the atmosphere of distrust which was the main obstacle for the good functioning of the UN.

STATEMENT BY GEN. MCNAUGHTON: The following is the text of a statement which General A.G.L. McNaughton, Canadian permanent delegate to the United Nations and representative of Canada on the Security Council, delivered over the Trans-Canada network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation on Saturday, January 8. General McNaughton, under the rotation procedure, is President of the Security Council for the month of January.

"It is a great privilege for me to speak to you for a few minutes today concerning the work of the Security Council of the United Nations. As you may know, the Presidency of the Security Council rotates each month according to the English alphabetical order of the eleven member states. In the present month Canada provides the President of the Council and it is in that role, rather than as a Canadian representative, that I would like to take this opportunity of saying a few words to you.

"As we enter the New Year, the Security Council is faced with many urgent and far-reaching political problems and situations whose solution will require the highest possible degree of patient negotiation and statesmanship by all those concerned. In this month

of January the Council will be required to continue examination of such difficult matters as the Palestine, Indonesia and Berlin situations. It would be both unwise and unreal to attempt to disguise from you the gravity of these disputes or the importance which their settlement holds for the peace of the world. The Council, I am certain, will spare no effort in its search for peaceful solutions.

"These three political questions which I have mentioned are certainly among the most urgent and difficult problems with which the Council will be faced in January. In another item on its agenda, however, - namely Kashmir - satisfactory progress towards a final peaceful solution is evident. A cease-fire has been ordered by India and Pakistan and all who have been concerned with this matter in the United Nations have been greatly heartened to read their joint communique of January 1. This is a very important document from which I would like to quote the last paragraph. After referring to the acceptance by the two Governments of the United Nations Kashmir Commission's proposals, and the arrangements for a cease-fire, the communique goes on to say: 'The Governments of India and Pakistan sincerely hope that this decision, which is being implemented on the first day of the New Year, may bring to the people of Jammu and Kashmir lasting peace and to the peoples of Pakistan and India a sense of closer friendship.' This successful achievement by the two parties, through the medium of the Security Council, in establishing a basis for a lasting solution of the Kashmir dispute is a clear answer to those cynics who have failed to see the far-reaching possibilities which lie in the United Nations.

"The Security Council is now about to begin its fourth year of work. As you know, the members of the United Nations have conferred, under the Charter, primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security upon this Council. At no time in the Council's history have its responsibilities been more serious than they are now. We cannot expect that our problems will yield to easy solution. The Security Council does, in fact, face a very difficult task both in this month of January and in those to follow. To aid in achieving success, we will require the continued support and understanding of men and women of goodwill throughout the world and it is imperative that this be given in full and generous measure."

MR. CHEVRIER ON UN: "Canada today merits her place as a great nation" said the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, on January 9, in the first of a series of radio talks sponsored by the Montreal Branch of the United Nations Association of Canada. He stated that "as in

war we found the full measure of our nationhood, so likewise can we win to leadership in peace, but it behooves us all to be conscious of and to mark well the responsibilities implicit in such leadership."

The Minister praised the United Nations Association in Canada which he said, "is trying to do something about international understanding by developing an informed public opinion on world affairs." He added that it was his firm conviction that "to everyone who wished to work for the well-being of the world, there is a challenge to support the United Nations Organization because in it lies our main hope for peace."

Recently returned from Paris where he was for a time the chief Canadian Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Chevrier reviewed some of the principal issues which had been considered. He listed these important issues as atomic energy control, disarmament and the report of the United Nations Balkan Commission to Greece.

With respect to atomic control, the Minister said that "Canadians have a particular interest in this problem because of the natural resources which lie in our northwest country." For this reason, he said, the requirements of national defence must take precedence and "there can be no compromise of security until the position has been made safe by means of international control of atomic energy which will provide acceptable safeguards."

The debate on disarmament was, in the opinion of the Minister, one of the most interesting during his stay at the United Nations. The issues in the last analysis were simple ones, he said and the Great Powers "were willing to reduce armaments providing they had some assurance that the Soviets were doing likewise."

GIFT FROM CANADA: A gift of \$15,000 to the Pasteur Institute of France, to be used for the purchase of scientific equipment, has been presented by the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In addition, the Institute has been offered subscriptions to a number of learned and professional periodicals for a three-year period.

The gift was presented in a ceremony at the Institute to Dr. Jacques Trefouel, Director, by Dr. James A. Gibson, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Council for Reconstruction. Dr. Gibson read a letter from Mr. Mackenzie King, until recently Prime Minister of Canada, saying the gift was designed to help the Institute "to continue the scientific and humanitarian services which have earned for it the highest recognition throughout the world."

The Canadian Council for Reconstruction groups together some 60 non-governmental organizations dealing with educational social problems. It works closely with UNESCO, which

is stimulating and coordinating gifts for educational and cultural reconstruction in war-damaged areas.

MOVIES IN THE NORTH: In 37 wide-flung posts between Edmonton and the Alaska border, huts, dining halls or canteens are converted to movie houses when the latest pictures tour the north.

The weekly showing of movies in these out of the way places is an important highlight which always plays to a full house.

A "full house" may mean six or 60 according to the size of the station. Servicemen and their dependents, civilians employed in maintenance camps of the Army's Northwest Highway System, RCAF stations of the Northwest Staging Route and technicians in remote telephone repeater stations have found that the Hollywood epics help ease the feeling of isolation.

Each week the 4,000 mile film circuit features the latest movie and during its tour by truck, bus and plane about 500 northerners see each show. Specially converted to fit the 16mm projectors at each camp, a large number of the screenings are seen in such places as Snag, Whitehorse and Little Smoky before they are shown in city theatres.

IRON AND STEEL: Production of steel ingots and castings in November was below the level of the preceding month but was above that for November, 1947, according to the Bureau of Statistics. A similar trend was shown for ferro-alloys, while pig iron showed a decline in both comparisons.

Production of steel ingots and castings totalled 277,978 tons in November compared with 281,866 in October and 255,372 in November, 1947, bringing the cumulative output for the first 11 months of 1948 to 2,921,231 tons as against 2,695,397 in the similar period of 1947.

November production of pig iron amounted to 166,771 tons as compared with 186,424 in October and 174,147 in November, 1947. Output for the first 11 months of 1948 totalled 1,946,676 tons as against 1,804,296.

CANADA-U.S. INQUIRY: The Department of External Affairs announced on January 12 that the Governments of Canada and the United States have agreed on terms of reference to the International Joint Commission requesting it to investigate complaints of air pollution along the International Boundary in the vicinity of Detroit and Windsor.

The terms of reference request the Commission to investigate complaints that vessels passing through the Detroit River are causing the pollution of air in the vicinity of those two cities. The reference also requests the Commission to ascertain other major factors which might be contributing to this air pollu-