

*Supply—External Affairs*

there had been great progress made in these negotiations. Scientists of the three countries had met and reported on various ways of checking tests, and the delegates had agreed to many paragraphs of a test ban treaty. Incidentally, at the United Nations last year there were two resolutions passed dealing with the suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests. One of them contained this operative paragraph:

Urges the states concerned in these negotiations—

The reference is to the negotiations at Geneva.

—to continue their present voluntary suspension of the testing of nuclear weapons.

That resolution was sponsored by Austria, India and Sweden and was adopted by a vote of 89 in favour, including Canada, none against and four abstentions. Another resolution, sponsored by India and 25 other countries, contained the following operative paragraph:

Urges the states concerned in the Geneva negotiations to continue their present voluntary suspension of the testing of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons, and requests other states to refrain from undertaking such tests.

That resolution was adopted by a vote of 83 in favour, including Canada, none opposed and 11 abstentions.

This year for some reason or other—I really do not understand why—the delegate of the Soviet union to the conference in Geneva became intransigent. It was really impossible to make any further progress.

The United States and Great Britain submitted revised proposals meeting many of the objections which had been taken by the Soviet delegate, but these were not even adequately discussed by the Soviet representative. He was insistent on the troika principle for controlling the test ban under which principle there would be one representative of the U.S.S.R., one representative of the western side and one neutral, and was also insistent that the whole question of nuclear tests should be taken out of the conference and put into a general conference on disarmament. However, the conference still goes on. The western side have refused to take steps to break it off, and I believe have acted very wisely in so doing.

At the United Nations in 1959 Canada sponsored a resolution calling for more adequate reporting on radiation and for additional steps to warn the people of the world about the effects of radiation as well as further action along that line. The resolution was co-sponsored by ten other nations and was finally adopted by unanimous vote on November 21, 1959. We offered to conduct in Canada tests of samples of air, soil, water,

food and bone collected in nations which did not have the scientific facilities for carrying out such tests. In the intervening period arrangements have been made with Burma, Malaya, Ghana and Pakistan for Canada to carry out such tests. We have had to build up staff in Canada to do this work. We have extended our facilities and everything has now been prepared with this end in view.

As a result of the resolution, increased attention has been given to radiation problems internationally. For example, 13 other states have offered their facilities in the same way Canada did. These include the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, France, Norway, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, Japan, Israel, the Soviet union, Argentina and Italy in addition to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization. There has been a marked increase in the number of member countries supplying the United Nations with data on fall-out levels. I think we can be proud of the results that have followed from the initiative taken in 1959.

In addition we have made it perfectly clear for a long time that the Canadian government is opposed to nuclear tests of any kind. That was done in order that there would be no misunderstanding and that every country would know exactly where we stood. We see no reason for Canada to change that policy.

In the present situation, with the Soviet union conducting these tests in the way it has been, there can be no doubt that the responsibility for this backward step must be placed at their door. The United States has said that it now proposes to carry out tests. I think in fairness every hon. member of the committee would agree with me that the United States could not sit by indefinitely while the Russians were proceeding with their tests; but naturally we regret that it has been deemed necessary for the United States to announce the resumption of tests at this time. Canada on this problem will endeavour to further an agreement banning tests. That may not be an objective easily reached, but this is the target at which we will be aiming.

Having dealt with nuclear testing, I turn now to the situation in Berlin and Germany. I am sure all hon. members of the committee and the Canadian people generally will join with me in supporting the clear-cut, analytical and statesmanlike speech made by the Prime Minister of Canada in Winnipeg on September 1. I see by the press that the Leader of the Opposition has said he agrees with the attitude adopted in that speech by our Prime Minister. It would be tantamount to gilding the lily for me to attempt today