

It seems somewhat extraordinary, even from the Soviet, that the Commission should be asked to take up a proposal which has already been decisively rejected by the General Assembly, but perhaps we should view this action as evidence that they are becoming derelict in ideas. We have again made it clear that the matter which concerns us is not the question of whether there should be simultaneous conventions for prohibition and control but whether in the matter of control the U.S.S.R. will continue to reject the essential elements on which alone such international control can be made fully effective.

Because of the illness of Jacob Malik, the U.S.S.R. representative, no further meetings of the Commission have since been held, so no decision has been taken on what is to be done with the Soviet proposal.

My own view is that, vexatious and repetitious as it is, it would be well to refer it to a Committee so that once again for the better understanding of the position by the general public we will be able to marshal the facts which clearly show it to be quite inadequate.

I have spoken at some length descriptive of the discussions on international control of atomic energy which have taken place in the several organs of the United Nations concerned -- the General Assembly -- the Security Council -- and the Commission itself. My reason was two-fold. First, to endeavour to carry to you a conception of the vital importance of establishing proper international control of atomic energy and secondly, so that I might tell you something of the part which has fallen to Canada to discharge. The reason we have been invited to permanent membership in the Atomic Energy Commission is in consequence of the great contribution which our engineers and chemists and physicists have made to the science of nuclear physics, both before and during the war. It is because of this and of this only that Canada has been accorded the right and the duty to participate in these vital political decisions which must now be reached. I am happy to say that the contributions of our young scientists continues unabated not only in the National Research Council but also in ever widening circles in our universities as well.

S/C