

the organization merely because it has not, in its short history, already accomplished all that we hoped for from it. The weaknesses which have been displayed make it all the more necessary that support for it be strong and steadfast with a view to removing those weaknesses. At the same time we must not complacently allow any one state or group of states to use the United Nations for their own selfish national or propagandist purposes. It must be a forum for the expression of the collective will of all peoples and not a sounding board for false and misleading propaganda.

I conclude, then, on a note of reserved optimism. We in Canada, regard our membership in the United Nations not as a temporary expedient but as a permanent partnership. At the same time, we are conscious of the effort which must be made to offset the danger in which this partnership lies.

### **B. Statement by the Chairman of the Canadian Delegation in the Opening Debate, in the General Assembly, September 18, 1947**

A Canadian statement in the general discussion at the opening of the Assembly should, I think, give an account of our stewardship as a Member of the United Nations, and our view whether the organization is fulfilling the high purposes and noble ideals which inspired its creation.

As to the former, Canada has endeavoured to discharge both its formal and implied obligations as a Member State. Our Parliament has passed legislation necessary for this purpose, including an appropriation of twenty millions of dollars for post-UNRRA international relief. We have also carried out our duty in implementing a resolution of the Assembly which was passed by a substantial majority and was in accord with the Charter, even though we opposed it unsuccessfully when it was introduced.

We do not, of course, feel that we are entitled to any particular credit for the discharge of obligations which we have undertaken, by signing the Charter of the United Nations. I hope that we, and all others, take these obligations seriously. The proof of this, however, in our case, and in the case of other Members, will be found in deeds, not words. So nothing more need be said on this point.

The Canadian people also believed that in signing the Charter, they, and all other Member States, accepted an obligation to reconcile views and policies concerning national welfare with those concerning the needs of mankind, as a whole. In the light of recent developments, it is perhaps not superfluous to reassert this obligation. It is a mandate to guide ourselves by the principle that in the long run each nation can benefit most from those measures which benefit all nations. It is a commitment constantly to scrutinize our domestic and external policies on the national level so that we may be certain of bringing them into harmony with the high purposes to which this organization is dedicated.

My second purpose in speaking is to give you, in a few words, the view of my Government on the present position of our world organization. There is a growing feeling in my country, as in other countries, that the