

now lies by exposing the insincerity of Communist declarations that they wish to end the war in Korea.

If the United Nations proposal on Korea, which was a fair compromise, had been accepted by the Communists who talk so much about a cease-fire we would have been able long since to enjoy a cease-fire -- a cease-fire on the basis of an armistice agreed upon, with prisoners of war already exchanged; and we would now be well on the way to a political conference on outstanding Korean and other Far Eastern questions.

Their summary rejection, and it was a summary rejection by the Communists, of this great opportunity for peace exposes the hollowness and hypocrisy of the Communist clamour for a cease-fire without an armistice and without an exchange of prisoners -- matters which, along with others in the Soviet proposals, echoed recently by Peking, are to be left for later disposition to a commission which would be set up after the cease-fire and on whose decisions the Communist members would have had a veto.

On that important question and other important questions, the General Assembly has already shown that even when faced with matters potentially very explosive it is capable of reaching decisions which bear a relation to the present facts and to the possibilities of constructive international action.

It is probable, however, that there will be further far-reaching discussions at later sessions of the General Assembly on the reconciliation of domestic jurisdiction as laid down in the Charter with the claim that the United Nations is competent to consider and to intervene in any question which anyone may wish to put on the agenda. There is probably no more important long-range problem facing the United Nations General Assembly than this.

In the economic, social and legal fields the General Assembly did not strike out on any new paths, but it reviewed and developed the work of its various technical agencies. It is possibly worth special mention that there was a decision to recommend a \$25 million grant for the expanded programme of technical assistance which the Economic and Social Council had already proposed.

Such achievements as the General Assembly has been able to make are I think the more commendable in that they were made under the handicap of the uncertainty attendant upon the Presidential election in the United States. The General Assembly was also faced with serious problems posed for the organization itself by the resignation of the Secretary-General and by certain difficulties which arose over personnel problems in the Secretariat. I shall say no more about these matters now, as they will undoubtedly be discussed at the resumed session.

However, there are some additional subjects on the agenda which promise to give rise to discussion and indeed to opportunities for propaganda. These include, for example, germ warfare, the Polish resolution on "peace" and the Czechoslovak resolution referring to the alleged interference of the United States in the internal affairs of other states. We are now more than half way through the session of the General Assembly, I hope; and while I do not wish to indulge in any idle or unrealistic praise of what it has done or to minimize the difficulties which lie ahead, I think we can take some encouragement from the spirit in which the General Assembly tackled the great issues which faced it last October and the constructive way in which so many delegations sought for solutions to those issues.