

listened to several statements about the character of the Greek Government. If arguments based on these allegations are to be used at all, they should surely be advanced in an attempt to justify intervention in Greek affairs rather than to deny that such intervention is taking place.

Statements made here, which call in question the findings of the Commission of investigation, have disclosed no new evidence to show that we had been given a misleading account of the situation. The report of the Commission and of the subsidiary group to which attention has recently been drawn, must, therefore, be accepted as the only basis on which we can proceed to plan any course of action. If the Assembly is to take effective action, it must, unless there are convincing reasons to the contrary, accept the findings of a substantial majority on an international investigating body as a basis of action. Otherwise we shall be left in a position where we can take no action at all, and the Assembly's efforts to obtain peace and settle disputes will become as futile as those of the Security Council. Such a development would weaken still further the ability of the United Nations to prevent war.

#### CONSIDERATION OF REMEDY

When we come to the second point, consideration of the remedy for the situation which a majority of members of the Security Council have found to exist on the borders of Greece, we must determine first what action is within the competence of the General Assembly. There can be no doubt that articles 11 and 14 of the Charter enable the Assembly to take action in circumstances where the Security Council has failed to do so. Indeed, the Charter lays upon us a solemn obligation not only to discuss these questions but to recommend measures for their peaceful adjustment. One proposal for dealing with this situation is to set up a committee in the Balkan Peninsula to assist in implementing the Assembly's recommendations. When a Commission of a similar character was proposed by the Security Council, its establishment was opposed on the ground that such action would "be contrary to the sovereignty of the states concerned". Such an argument, if it is seriously advanced, can of course, be justified in the light of the obligation entered into by all members of the United Nations at San Francisco:

"To take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression and other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace."

It is absurd to suggest that a recommendation that states should co-operate with an international Commission can be regarded as a

proposal to infringe upon sovereignty. On the contrary, a policy of non-co-operation with properly constituted international bodies can result only in the failure of our efforts to substitute international law and objective rules for those purely subjective standards of international conduct which inevitably lead to anarchy amongst nations. Arguments based on such a conception of national sovereignty are, as Mr. Spaak said the other day, indicative of a re-actionary attitude. They lead us into a new and vicious form of isolation.

#### ASSEMBLY SHOULD TAKE ACTION

In view of the serious situation which has been shown to exist in the Balkan Peninsula, the Canadian delegation considers that the Assembly should take action immediately towards the maintenance of peace and security in that area. We do not, however, consider that the resolution submitted by the Soviet delegation, insofar as it is based on mere counter charges against the Greek Government, contributes towards the solution of the problem.

We have come to the conclusion therefore that we should support the operative parts of the United States resolution and especially the proposal to establish a special committee.

We have, however, been impressed by the amendment put forward by the French delegation to paragraph 3 and 4 of the preamble to that resolution and by the argument that what is required now in respect to this unhappy business is conciliation rather than condemnation, prevention rather than punishment, a forward rather than backward look.

There can be no doubt that a situation which endangers the peace exists on the northern borders of Greece. This is the very kind of problem envisaged in article 14 of the Charter which empowers the Assembly to recommend measures for the peaceful adjustment of a situation which it deems likely to impair the general welfare or the friendly relations among nations. The question is whether all parties will accept the establishment of a special committee and co-operate in its work. We were glad to learn that the Greek Government is prepared to do so and we join in the appeal in this sense which has been made to Greece's neighbours to give similar assurances. Agreement along these lines would make it possible for the United States delegation to incorporate in its resolution the amendment contained in the French motion. The United States delegation has already offered to do so and the resolution before us would, with this change, become the joint proposal of both the United States and France.

If, however, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania refuse to accept this special committee and undertake to co-operate in its work, great doubt would arise as to the willingness of these three states to reach a peaceful solution of the problem and the case for the acceptance of the United States proposal in its original form would then be compelling, and we would be prepared to support it.

**TRADE CHARTER A REALISTIC DOCUMENT:** Addressing the Canadian Chamber of Commerce at its 18th annual meeting in Quebec city, Oct. 7, Mr. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, said two courses of international economic policy were open to the world today.

Nations, Mr. Martin continued, can unite to restore a multilateral world economy based on international law and order, in which national policies, insofar as they affect world trade, are made to be consistent with the general will of the community of nations. This new multilateralism would not be a return to the international exchange and trading practices of the past, for there are new conditions and new requirements, as well as new solutions for old sins and weaknesses. Or, (and I hesitate to say this, for it cannot be policy but rather lack of policy) nations can continue to drift in the direction of economic blocs and uneconomic bilateral barter patterned along the line developed so intensively by Nazi Germany.

For Canada there is no doubt as to what is the desirable choice. We must make every effort to move along the road to a multilateral trading world under internationally accepted law. This is the purpose of the International Trade Organization.

#### GENESIS OF THE I. T. O.

At the conclusion of the negotiations for the U.S. loan to Britain in December, 1945, the United States released a document entitled "Proposals for Expansion of World Trade and Employment". At the same time, a Joint Statement was issued by the U.K. and the U.S.A. in which the U.S.A. under-wrote the Proposals and the United Kingdom indicated full agreement on all important points, accepting them as a basis for international discussion.

The Geneva Draft Charter of the International Trade Organization is to be the basis for an international code for economic behaviour covering almost every aspect of world trade and commerce. If adopted and put into effect, it will restore a multilateral economic world governed by recognized international economic law. Collaboration and co-operation will replace unilateral decision. Consultation will replace economic warfare.

The draft charter is a lengthy, complicated and highly technical document containing nine chapters and one hundred separate articles. It covers a wider range of economic problems than has ever been incorporated into a single document in the entire history of international economic relations. It is clear that we cannot here and now examine the charter in detail, but I strongly recommend that you study and analyze it.

The main substantive provisions of the Trade Charter are contained in the chapter dealing with Commercial Policy.

1. It provides for Most Favoured Nation Treatment in all matters respecting customs duties and charges of any kind imposed on the import and export of goods. Preferential arrangements remaining after the completion of the tariff negotiations may be maintained, but margins of preference may not be increased.
2. It provides for National Treatment in respect of internal taxation and regulations of all kinds.
3. It calls for general elimination of all import and export quotas as the most restrictive and deadly weapon of economic nationalism. It provides for certain exceptions from this general and basic rule to meet the realistic requirements of the present-day economic facts of life but in every case it subjects these exceptions to close supervision and control and in most cases provides for their eventual abandonment.
4. It permits the controlled use of general subsidies where this practice does not result in serious prejudice to other members. Export subsidies are ruled out except for carefully limited cases where primary commodities are concerned. I might mention here that a long drawn out battle was fought on this issue and the Canadian viewpoint was finally adopted. If upheld at the world conference, this will require some fundamental changes in the network of export subsidization of agricultural products so widely practised by some of our competitors.
5. It provides for a code of commercial behaviour in regard to State-Trading enterprises which would introduce parallelism between the obligations of state trading enterprise and private enterprises in respect of levels of protection and non-discrimination. This breaks completely new ground in international economic agreements.
6. It provides for uniformity in customs formalities and for the abolition of arbitrary administrative methods for the exclusion of goods which have in the past proved extremely restrictive of trade. These particular provisions are of great importance for Canada, and have been the subject of serious and long complaint in our trade with the U.S.A.

#### CONTROL OF CARTELS

In addition to these basic rules for commercial policy the proposed Charter contains provisions regarding employment, the development of undeveloped economies, the control of international cartels, and principles that should govern the regulation of trade in primary commodities. The provisions on employment recognize the close relationship between national levels of employment and income and the level of world trade. It provides for an under-