

Canada's next major involvement in Korean affairs came in 1950, when Communist armies from the North invaded the Republic of Korea. The UN called for assistance, and 16 nations, including Canada, came to the aid of the R.O.K. The Canadian contingent, the fourth largest, comprised over 22,000 troops, three destroyers and an air-transport squadron; it suffered over 1,500 casualties. Since the war ended in 1953 with only a cease-fire along a line near the original North-South boundary, a Canadian liaison officer is still attached to the UN Command in Korea. Canada's contribution to Korean relief amounted to over \$7 million, the third largest contribution, and Canadian aid — through private agencies, as well as under the Colombo Plan — has continued since the war.

Full Diplomatic Relations

In January 1963, Canada and the Republic of Korea entered into full diplomatic relations. A non-resident Korean Ambassador presented his credentials at that time and, in November 1964, the first and current non-resident Canadian Ambassador to Seoul, Mr. Richard P. Bower, presented his credentials.

Two events of significance in Canadian-Korean relations took place this summer. On August 23, the first resident Korean Ambassador, Mr. Sun Yup Paik, presented his credentials, and in June Mr. Bower carried out his first major tour of Korea since becoming Ambassador. The following are excerpts from a report Mr. Bower has written on his impressions of Korea as obtained during his tour:

"The first thing which struck us wherever we went in Korea was the incredible number of children. Fifty per cent of the population in South Korea is under the age of 20. Children are carried on the back in Korea, with the child facing forward (as in Japan) and not backward (as is the papoose in Canada). Some families are so large that the parents cannot carry all their numerous offspring themselves, so that the older children carry younger ones and so *ad infinitum*. We saw children no older than four carrying babies strapped to their backs. Many men and women doing active physical work did so while carrying their young in this fashion.

Problem of Korea's Children

"Abortion is not as widespread in Korea as in Japan, perhaps because about 30 per cent of Koreans are Christians. However, child abandonment is widespread and constitutes a problem of terrifying proportions. A number of overseas voluntary agencies, including the Canadian 'Save-the-Children' Fund, are trying to cope with the problem but it is a losing battle. Many argue that only birth control can save the situation. The Canadian 'Save-the-Children' Fund have their headquarters in Pusan, where a Mr. Kim is in charge. We visited the establishment, as well as a nearby children's charity hospital. Mr. Kim explained that orphanages to take care of abandoned children were definitely not the answer. As bigger and better orphanages were built, more and more children were abandoned, the parents reasoning that the facilities available at the orphanage were so superior to any-