everywhere,—in their health, their food, their education and indeed in most aspects of their lives. There is now, it seems to me, a much greater comprehension of how closely the nations of the world are bound together, and the more fortunate peoples of the earth have assumed increasing responsibility for the progress of less technically advanced countries. All this, and much more, constitutes a considerable body of achievement. If we have the wisdom and the courage to avoid the ultimate catastrophe of war, the United Nations can grow and develop as an effective and well-equipped organization for man's progress toward an incomparably better life.

The United Nations is now at the beginning of a new decade; one that is certain to bring new problems and perhaps great changes in our world. We enter this new period with no illusions that our tasks will be light or easy, but we can take confidence from what already has been accomplished and from what we now know can be accomplished by nations working peacefully together for their common welfare. Man has created a great instrument for his political and economic well-being, and it now remains for him to use it with all the wisdom and with all the sense of responsibility he can command.

My detailed comments on the events of the 18-month period are found in the General Survey of *Canada and the United Nations* 1954-55.

LB Pears

Secretary of State for External Affairs

Ottawa, March 1956.