

The total assistance approved by UNICEF for child health and welfare from 1947 to the end of March 1953 (including the cost of freight and administration) was \$177,864,600. Canada has contributed \$500,000 (Canadian) towards the 1953 budget. The total of Canadian contributions to the Fund since 1947 is \$8,475,050 from the Government and over \$1,500,000 from private sources. During 1952 Mrs. D. B. Sinclair of the Department of National Health and Welfare was Chairman of the Executive Board and Canada continues to be a member of the Board.

The future of the Fund will be considered at the eighth session of the General Assembly. The seventh session adopted a resolution praising the work of the organizations and the Social Commission, at its ninth session in May 1953, forwarded for the approval of the Economic and Social Council a resolution recommending that the General Assembly confirm its previous resolutions "without reference to time limit." At the time of writing the Council had not yet debated this resolution.

World Social Situation

For some years now the Economic and Social Council, (ECOSOC), when considering ways and means of eliminating conditions causing distress and instability among nations, has had before it an annual report on the world economic situation. The General Assembly, at its third session in 1949, suggested that the Council should also, in order that it might view in a systematic and comprehensive manner the social ills and gains of mankind, prepare a report on the world social situation. The Council, at its ninth session, accordingly requested the Social Commission, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, to prepare such a report in the light of facts and figures at hand.¹ On February 2, 1952, the General Assembly by Resolution 536 (VI) instructed ECOSOC, in the light of this report, to draw up a programme of practical action in the social field.

After preliminary consideration by the Social Commission in 1952, the report was discussed by ECOSOC at its fourteenth session (July 1952). Commenting on the report, the Canadian Representative stressed its usefulness and added that it provided a remarkable assessment of existing conditions and a benchmark against which to measure future progress. So as to keep in focus the urgent need for greater national effort and international co-operation in social matters, the Council recommended the preparation of further reports on the world social situation, to be supplemented periodically by statements on measures undertaken by governments and by international organizations to improve world social conditions. It also instructed the Social Commission to draft, in the light of the findings of the current report, a series of recommendations which would assist it in preparing the programme of concerted practical action in the social field requested by the General Assembly in its resolution of February 2, 1952. As a guide

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, pp. 68-69.