

which every nation might have been expected to co-operate wholeheartedly. It must frankly be admitted, however, that we have cause for misgiving about the progress of both these undertakings.

The reconstruction of Europe, stimulated by aid from countries which suffered less directly from the war, and carried forward by the co-operative effort of the peoples of Western Europe, has, fortunately, made some progress. On the other hand, rather than participate in this work of reconstruction, from which they themselves would benefit, certain nations have chosen not merely to stand aside, but, wilfully or otherwise, to misrepresent and obstruct the efforts of others. This obstruction in the task of reconstruction is unfortunately but one example of what would appear to be a policy of deliberate hindrance of the political and economic reorganization of the postwar world. In so far as this may be so, we cannot be otherwise than profoundly concerned for the well-being of the entire work of reconstruction and peacemaking which has been undertaken since the war.

It will come as a painful surprise, if not as a shock, to my fellow countrymen in Canada to learn that anyone addressing this Assembly could have left the impression that members of the United Nations had ignored the interests of the peoples of those countries which suffered most from the war, and from the severe hardships which were imposed by the Hitlerites. Such, certainly, was the impression left on my mind in listening to the address of the delegate of the U.S.S.R. on Saturday morning last. I find the impression left on others was similar to my own.

The specific references, it is true, were to the Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Europe, but the impression conveyed was that the United Nations had been indifferent to the important interests of the people of those countries which had suffered most. This certainly is not true of the United Nations as expressed in the contributions of its member nations.

I am sure the Assembly would be glad to hear from the representatives of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia what quantity of farm implements, how many motor trucks, how many locomotives, to say nothing of food supplies and medical aid, their countries have received, since the end of the war, by gift and credit, from countries, members of the United Nations, that have sought to help in the common task of reconstruction.

I speak with some knowledge and feeling on this question because the people of Canada have taken their full share of the load of providing relief and assistance for the war-shattered countries of Europe - through mutual aid, through military relief, through UNRRA, as well as through direct governmental credits of over 500 million dollars for the continent of Europe. I can speak for the Government of which during these years I have been the head, and which recommended to Parliament the necessary appropriations. I can speak for the Parliament of Canada which made the appropriations possible, and for the people of Canada who supported these policies for the rehabilitation of the economy of war-devastated countries, and supplemented them by sending millions of dollars more, through private and voluntary channels, for the relief of the needy and destitute. Their single purpose was to assist the peoples who had suffered most from the war to rebuild their homes, restore their agriculture, restart their industries - so that their countries could take their places again in the world economy and world community to which we all belong.

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