

press of the world to the issues which exist amongst the nations. We shall be discussing that question in connection with other items on the agenda. For our part, we think it important to protect the right of the press everywhere to discuss freely these issues in world affairs and we consider that the proposed agenda, which I may wish to refer to again, is a good basis for these discussions.

We have noted with interest the various resolutions which have been put forward, and wish to assure the members of the Committee that such resolutions, and all others which may be put forward, will receive careful study and consideration by the Canadian Delegation.

In Plenary Session of the Assembly the leader of the Canadian Delegation referred to the useful work which is being done by the Economic and Social Council. An examination of the report which is now before us, and of reports of its previous sessions, provide ample evidence that the Economic and Social Council has justified to a greater extent than any other United Nations agency, our continued faith in international co-operation. My country has given its full measure of support to the Economic and Social Council and to its related commissions and agencies. We have done so because of our profound conviction that security and economic well-being are two sides of the same coin, and because we believe that a valid basis for world peace can only be found in an extension of co-operation between all nations in their economic and social relations with one another.

B. Canadian Statement, October 6, 1947

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

The Canadian Government believes that if the Economic and Social Council effectively discharges its obligations it will come to be regarded more and more as the most constructive single organ of the United Nations, (with the exception of course of the General Assembly itself). While we in no sense underestimate the supreme importance of the tasks for which the Security Council is responsible, these tasks are preventive rather than constructive—to prevent aggression and threats to the peace. The tasks of the Economic and Social Council, on the other hand, are essentially positive and constructive—to promote human well-being, high standards of living, and human progress generally. Of course the work of the Security Council is fundamental to any real and lasting progress. It is the main organ designed to prevent mankind from ever again slipping backward into conditions which provoke war. No lasting progress can be made towards bettering the lot of mankind if it is to be plagued with constantly recurring and ever more dreadful and cruel war. But if a basis of lasting and unquestioned peace can be established steady progress becomes possible. The Economic and Social Council has been given the function of pointing the way towards that progress, of helping mankind to move forward toward a fuller and richer life and toward the attainment of those larger human freedoms to which we all pledged ourselves in our Charter.

As we all know Article 24 of the Charter states explicitly that the Security Council in carrying out its duty for the maintenance of international peace and security acts on behalf of all the Members of the