

sovereign state, that the Omani revolt had been staged by a dissident political group within that state. It also contended that conditions in the country had long since been restored to normal, and that there were no permanent British bases or forces there.

The Arab states presented a draft resolution asserting "the right of the people of Oman to self-determination and independence", calling for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Oman, and inviting the parties to settle their differences peacefully "with a view to restoring normal conditions there". The resolution secured a simple majority in Committee but failed in plenary, where, as an important question, it required a two-thirds majority.

Canada voted against the resolution because it was unconvinced by arguments that Oman was a separate state from the Sultanate and could not agree with the Arab contention that the question should be regarded as a colonial one.

### ***Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees***

Besides considering the Commissioner-General's annual report, the United Nations had to decide whether it would renew UNRWA's mandate, which would otherwise expire by June 1963.

A long and contentious debate ensued, during which more than 60 delegations made statements. Two draft resolutions were placed before the Committee. One resolution, sponsored chiefly by African and Latin American delegations, supported the Israeli call for direct negotiations between the Arab states and Israel. The other, sponsored by four Moslem states, sought the appointment of a United Nations custodian for Palestinian refugee property in Israel. Neither resolution was pressed to a vote.

A third draft resolution was introduced by the United States to enable the Palestine Conciliation Commission to continue its efforts to make progress toward a solution of the refugee problem and to provide for a two-year extension of the mandate of UNRWA. This proposal [Resolution 1856 (XVII)] was unanimously approved by the Assembly, with only two countries abstaining.

### ***Question of Hungary***

When the Soviet veto power blocked Security Council action following the outbreak of the Hungarian uprising on October 23, 1956, the General Assembly met on November 4 in emergency session, called on the Soviet Union to desist from its armed attack on the people of Hungary, and requested the Secretary-General to investigate the situation and report back. In the face of Soviet intransigence and the continued refusal of the new