

The Soviet contentions were not received favourably by the Fifth Committee. Most members of the Committee agreed with the view expressed by the Canadian Representative, that the assessments of these countries were disproportionately low when considered in the light of their "capacity to pay". It was the Canadian view that these assessments should be increased immediately to reflect the improvement in their economies claimed by the countries themselves. At the same time there was almost no support for any greater cut in the United States contribution than had already been recommended by the Contributions Committee. While agreeing that the principle of a ceiling, in normal times, of 33 1/3 per cent on the assessment of the largest contributor should be implemented as soon as possible, many members of the Committee contended that times were not yet "normal". A number of representatives said that their countries were not yet in a position to assume the increased burdens which would be shifted to them, if the Committee were to accept the United States proposal for immediate reduction in its assessment to 33 1/3 per cent.

In the end, the Fifth Committee rejected the demands of both the Soviet Union and the United States. The Committee, and subsequently the Assembly, finally approved a resolution adopting the scale originally recommended by the Contributions Committee. The resolution called upon the Contributions Committee to work towards full implementation of the 1948 resolution as rapidly as might be practicable. It also directed the Committee to give special consideration, in drawing up the scale for 1953, to countries with a low per capita income.

In discussions in the Fifth Committee, the Canadian Delegation stressed the importance of rapid progress towards a more equitable scale. For technical and other reasons, Canada would reluctantly accept the 1952 scale recommended by the Contributions Committee, but on the clear understanding that the Committee would work towards the removal of the remaining maladjustments, "bearing in mind the need for arriving as quickly as possible at a fully equitable scale which will also be true to the principles approved in the 1948 resolution". The Canadian Representative placed particular emphasis on the maintenance of the principle — also incorporated in the 1948 resolution — that "in normal times" the per capita contribution of any member should not exceed the per capita contribution of the member bearing the highest assessment.

Under the scale adopted for 1952, Canada was assessed 3.35 per cent of the United Nations budget as compared with 3.30 per cent for 1951.

### Specialized Agencies

Important modifications were also made during 1951 in the scales of assessment for the Specialized Agencies. Among significant changes was a reduction to 33 1/3 per cent in the United States assessments for UNESCO and WHO — the ceiling set by Congress for United States contributions to these Agencies. At the same time, the United States assessment was increased from 27 per cent to 30 per cent in FAO to bring the contribution of the United States