

VERNMENT



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 51/41 THE UNITED NATIONS TODAY AND TOMORROW

An address by the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. A.D.P. Heeney, to a combined luncheon meeting of the Empire Club and the United Nations Association in Canada (Toronto Branch) made at Toronto, on October 25, 1951.

Yesterday, October 24, was "United Nations Day" - the sixth anniversary of the coming into force of that great agreement between nations - The United Nations Charter. Six years ago millions of ordinary people, the world over, acclaimed this event as the beginning of a new order in human affairs - one from which the horrors of war were to be exorcised by the magic formula - collective security.

It was especially interesting to me that my invitation to celebrate this day with you in Toronto should have come from two sources; not only from an Association which, in terms, is devoted to the purposes and principles of the United Nations but also, jointly, from a Society which is attached to those British ideals of Empire which have contributed so greatly to the development of free co-operation between nations and to the settlement of international differences by methods of justice and common sense. This conjunction of Empire Club and United Nations Association is a happy one. For upon the nations of the Commonwealth, Asian as well as Western, the future of international organization may in considerable measure depend.

I take it that in what I have to say, you will expect me to attempt some reckoning of these past six years of the United Nations; and you may also wish me to express some views on the prospects for the success of this great experiment. At any rate I shall be able to give you some indications of how we in your Department of External Affairs are thinking of "The United Nations, Today and Tomorrow".

Now I could begin by enumerating and describing the accomplishments, the very substantial accomplishments of the United Nations and social affairs; in the so-called "specialized agencies" like the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and many others. I could point to the very large and practical results of international co-operation under United Nations auspices in the relief of the needy, in care for the distressed and homeless in many lands - to the magnificent work among children and refugees and to the considerable progress that has been made since San Francisco in the development of the legal and