

would probably not get high marks for efficiency. There have been conflicting views about what should be done and it has been difficult to get a two-thirds vote in the Assembly for any plan. In the end, however, I think the solution will be a reasonably good one and it will reflect, in a way that has never before been possible, the judgment of the international community about one part of a post-war settlement. I do not wish here to go into details about what is a somewhat technical political question concerning the future of the group of North African territories -- the Fezzan, Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, Eritrea, and Somaliland. I mention the problem simply as an illustration of the way in which the General Assembly has been forced to take hold of a complicated international problem, in much the same way as our own Parliament is occasionally forced to deal with a difficult and complicated internal problem such, for example, as freight rates. The Assembly is working towards a solution of this problem by using generally accepted parliamentary procedures: discussion, negotiation, adjustment and compromise. There are other political problems about which the Assembly has also acted as a kind of international parliament. Palestine is one, the political situation in Korea is another. Whether or not we are happy about the recommendations which the Assembly made in these cases, it nevertheless acted as a kind of legislature, and its acts affected the disposition of territory, the government of people, and relations amongst states. I am confident therefore that there is already in the United Nations the beginnings of an international legislative process for the conduct of international affairs.

I said that the United Nations was sometimes regarded primarily as an organization for economic and social welfare. It is, of course, perfectly reasonable to expect an international organization, upon which we pin our hopes of peace, to do something about the economic and social causes of war. The United Nations has provided itself with a great deal of apparatus for dealing with these problems, and there are perhaps times when we feel that there is more apparatus than product. However this may be, the machinery is there with which to work. There is the Economic and Social Council. In the field of welfare there are the Social Commission and the various Specialized Agencies; there are also the economic commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and the various relief agencies organized under the United Nations. Many of these organs have already done work of very great importance, in terms of human lives, rescued from the scrap heap and given the chance of a fresh start, it seems to me that the record of the International Refugee Organization is a remarkable one. Another project for the rescue and rehabilitation of refugees is now taking place in the Eastern Mediterranean amongst the Arabs who were displaced as a result of the war in Palestine. This job is under the direction of a very able and practical Canadian, Major-General Kennedy, and I know that the work he is doing will have long term results in the economic life of the Near East. An even greater work of relief and rehabilitation is now beginning in Korea, where the effects of a devastating war which burst upon that country must be repaired. All these activities, moreover, may be regarded as part of a new and imaginative effort which is being made through the United Nations to raise the standard of living of backward countries. This effort has now been organized into what is called the Technical Assistance Programme, and another Canadian, Hugh Keenleyside, has recently been appointed Director of the