

From the point of view of a foreign minister, the meetings of the General Assembly are extremely valuable. I had the opportunity to meet and talk with at least 35 foreign ministers, and I know no other way in which it would have been possible to get their views or to pass on Canadian views to them. These contacts alone have more than justified any time spent in New York during the sessions of the Assembly.

Canada was represented at the last Assembly by a splendid Delegation. I am very proud of the part they played and I include everybody — those who came from outside the service, the delegates, the alternates who came from the Department and the Parliamentarians from all parties. We were there as a team. Each and every one of the group made a great contribution and I think we were able to give Canada good representation throughout the Assembly.

One is also struck by the work done by the Permanent Mission to the United Nations. In effect, this is Canada's embassy at the United Nations, and so much is done there under pressure — resolutions and amendments and difficult problems come up so fast and so frequently — that decisions have to be made in a hurry, various people have to be consulted in a hurry.

#### Fallout Information

We had as our main initiative this year a resolution to provide for more effective collection of information on radiation and fallout, and also a more effective method of distributing such information. We had a great deal of difficulty in getting that resolution through. The vice-chairman of the Delegation, my Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Nesbitt, did a wonderful job in carrying out these negotiations. He has become one of the outstanding representatives at the United Nations. With any luck at all he will play a very significant part for Canada in foreign affairs.

These negotiations on this resolution took a long time, in fact they took many weeks. We had to convince the big powers that the resolution should go through, and we had to convince the Eastern powers that we were not trying to deceive them. Finally we got ten co-sponsors — Argentina, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Ghana, Norway, New Zealand and Mexico. None of these were big powers; we got the middle powers and received unanimous support from the General Assembly. I hope that resolution will be of considerable help in meeting the problems of radiation.

We also had some complications in connection with the election to one of the non-permanent seats on the Security Council. Canada was supporting Poland because we thought that under the gentleman's agreement reached in 1946 the seat should go to Eastern Europe. We also thought this election should not be made a cold war issue. Poland had been in the field for some time before the United Nations sat, whereas Turkey was not put forward until after we had met in New York; taking all these things into consideration we reached the conclusion that we should support Poland. Many of our friends thought the same thing; many of the Latin American nations, for example, reached the same conclusion.