

communist countries to have tripartite representation at the Conferences. It was asserted by some speakers that worker and employer delegates from communist countries were in fact subservient to their governments. Challenges to the Romanian employer and worker delegates, however, were voted down by the Conference (as also was a challenge to the Spanish worker delegate). The McNair Report was before the Conference for an exchange of views only, as it was to be further considered at the November session of the ILO Governing Body. Thirty-nine speakers were heard on the subject, expressing a wide variety of views. Mr. Brown, the Deputy Minister of Labour and Head of the Canadian Delegation, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Governing Body, described the ILO as in the dilemma of wishing both to support the principle of universality of membership and also to maintain effectively its tripartite system of representation.

The Conference decided to accept the credentials of the Chinese Nationalist Delegation and to grant it voting rights for another year, notwithstanding the fact that the arrears of its Government exceeded \$1 million. The vote was 138 for, 63 against, with 24 abstentions, the affirmative votes being only four more than the minimum required to secure the required two-thirds majority; the Canadian employer and worker delegates voted to grant voting rights to China; the two Canadian Government delegates abstained.

The Conference reached agreement on two new international labour instruments—a recommendation to promote vocational training in agriculture and a recommendation on welfare facilities for workers. Preliminary action was also taken on five other instruments—a Convention on Forced Labour, a Convention and Recommendation on Weekly Rest in Commerce and Offices, and a Convention and Recommendation on the Protection of Indigenous Peoples in Independent Countries. These will be considered again at the 1957 Conference. Also adopted by the Conference were resolutions on automation, reduction of hours of work, abolition of wage discrimination based on sex, and on disarmament. The first three resolutions were designed to pave the way for more formal activity by the ILO on these subjects.

A budget of slightly more than \$7.5 million was approved for 1957, to which Canada's net contribution will be \$256,357.

At the 133rd session of the Governing Body held in Geneva in November 1956, the McNair Report was again debated. The employers group introduced a proposal to amend the ILO constitution in order to ensure that worker and employer representatives could "only be appointed after nomination by organizations of workers and employers which are free and independent of their governments". The employers' proposal was defeated by a vote of 11 votes for and 29 against (including Canada). The Canadian Delegation, while recognizing that the subservience of worker and employer delegates from communist countries to their own governments constitutes a threat to the tripartite structure of the ILO, was of the opinion that it was important, both in the interests of the organization and of the world situation generally, to preserve the principle of universality of