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Statement by Mrs. H. H. Steen, Canadian Representative  
on the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)  
Committee, on Monday, October 17, 1960

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Mr. Chairman:

Over the past week, we have heard many speakers representing the various social, economic and political systems of the world discussing those parts of the Economic and Social Council Report of vital interest to them. Those of us who are new to the Committee have not failed to be impressed by the magnitude of the social, humanitarian and cultural problems facing the United Nations which has been revealed in these statements.

In deference to the appeal which you have made for speakers to be brief, I shall restrict my remarks to a few salient points in the Report. By omitting reference to other items, my intention is not, of course, to minimize their importance.

The distinguished delegates who have preceded me have, rightly I think, singled out the work of UNICEF for special attention in their remarks. The report on UNICEF activities serves to point up UNICEF's dynamic character. Established originally to meet the emergency needs of children in war-devastated countries, it has evolved into an agency assisting governments to develop permanent health, nutrition and welfare services for children in order to combat diseases to which children are particularly susceptible. More recently it has extended its aid to include projects providing social services for children and has put increased emphasis on training programmes. At the same time it has continued to respond promptly and effectively to needs for emergency relief.