

To do this, of course, these unostentatious scientists need a world of peace.

No doubt most of you will be familiar with part, at least, of the work of the World Health Organization, another of the United Nations agencies which was established in 1946. This is one of the few international agencies which has attracted some public attention. You will recall the efficient manner in which the resources of the entire scientific world were mobilized last autumn to deal with the threatening outbreak of cholera in Egypt. Most of the work of the W.H.O., however, is much less dramatic but quite as useful and necessary in the maintenance and in the improvement of world health standards. The W.H.O. has established expert committees to deal with those special diseases which still devastate large areas of the world. The W.H.O. arranges for post-graduate study in the great medical centres of the world for ambitious and able students from those countries which have been devastated by war or which have not yet been able to make any great scientific progress of their own. The fact that one can, always assuming a world at peace, travel throughout the entire world without danger of pestilence and plague is largely due to the work of the W.H.O.

You will no doubt remember, too, the magnificent rescue of sixty-nine men, women and children from a plane which came down last autumn in the north Atlantic. It was by no means an accident that a ship was there, prepared and able to give the necessary aid in preventing what otherwise would have been an appalling tragedy. The ship which made this spectacular rescue was on duty under the authority of the International Civil Aviation Organization, another of these specialized agencies of the United Nations.

The main function of this aviation organization is to study problems of international civil aviation and to establish international standards and regulations for the safety of air travel. The coast-guard cutter which made the rescue last autumn was in fact one of the ICAO's weather stations, of which there will be ultimately thirteen, to provide the necessary weather data which will remove much of the danger in Trans-Atlantic and other sea crossings. Already forty-six states belong to this peaceful organization, and they are now engaged in arranging exchanges of commercial rights, in creating uniform technical standards for air safety, in establishing new air routes, in providing maps and charts, and in ensuring adequate standards for the air-worthiness of the ships and the training and experience of the crews. In this vital matter, then, of international air travel, the United Nations has been able to establish a very effective organization.

I could go on at perhaps tedious length to refer to other examples of international co-operation, which again are all predicated upon the expectation of a peaceful world. There is the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund to assist in the reconstruction of territories devastated during the war and to provide a stabilizing influence upon the world's currencies.