



—United Nations

#### HEADQUARTERS OF THE EUROPEAN OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The "Palais des Nations", at Geneva, headquarters of the European office of the United Nations.

But there is more in Geneva than the Genevese and the United Nations. There is a host of other international or intergovernmental organizations such as the World Council of Churches, the International Union of Official Travel Organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the World Federation of United Nations Associations, and the Migrants from Europe (PICMME).

The International Refugee Organization, or the IRO, has not been mentioned. As a Specialized Agency of the United Nations with headquarters in Geneva, the IRO assisted over a million refugees, but by 1951, the number having been greatly reduced, IRO came to an end. The remaining refugees, and the new ones were not forgotten, however, for the United Nations appointed a High Commissioner for Refugees to provide them with international protection and to assist them in other ways. At about the same time, PICMME was organized by a group of interested governments, including Canada, to maintain the shipping facilities of IRO for the movement, where commercial facilities would not be adequate, of migrants, including refugees. All these activities have been centred in Geneva.

As the wartime calm lifted from Geneva and the city began to bustle again with international activity, the Canadian Government decided it would be well to accredit a small permanent delegation to the European office of the United Nations. This body, set up in 1948, keeps in touch with the international organizations in Geneva, takes part in many of the conferences held there, and assists visiting Canadian officials. Some fifteen other countries have permanent representation in Geneva, which is an indication that there is more going on than Caesar or Calvin dreamed of. Indeed, even with the United Nations headquarters on another continent, there is more bustle per kilometre in Geneva now than there was during the days when it was the home of the League of Nations, and there are almost as many international customers to each cafe as there are Genevese.