

AN INFORMAL CHAT AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At the end of a meeting during the Sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly in Paris, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, discusses conference developments with the Foreign Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. Anthony Eden, (centre) and the Secretary of State of the United States, Mr. Dean Acheson (right).

General Debate

Much of the general debate in the plenary meetings of the Assembly centred around the question of disarmament (see page 420). While all delegations were concerned with peace and how to maintain it, many representatives also paid particular attention to the role of the United Nations in the development of under-developed territories as an important way to help to foster peace. Mr. R. G. Casey, the Australian Minister of External Affairs, called upon the Soviet Union not to press the crisis beyond "the point of no return". He said that the ultimate goal of the United Nations was "collective prosperity". The Egyptian representative called attention to disputes over Palestine, Morocco and the Suez Canal. Some delegations mentioned that certain deserving nations had not yet been made members of the United Nations. Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, called for "a truce to name-calling and angry words" and asked that representatives apply their minds dispassionately to the serious problems with which the Assembly was faced.

Mr. Dean Acheson, Secretary of State of the United States, pointed out, before dealing with the question of disarmament, that the cause of peace had, during the past year, prospered in tangible ways. A treaty of peace had been signed with Japan; the Collective Measures Committee had laid solid foundations for action through the United Nations to prevent aggression; and the Atlantic community had been building

December, 1951

419[°]