

revolutionary change and passionate conflict. It was a great source of encouragement to those of us who believe deeply that the East and the West can work together for our mutual good.

Admission of New Members

There are, I believe, twenty-one outstanding applications for membership in our organization and it is the view of my delegation that the continued exclusion from the United Nations of so many nations of the world is a great handicap. I know that in the minds of many delegates there are great difficulties of a legal and constitutional character which hinder the reaching of any practical solution of this problem. We too are concerned and troubled by these difficulties, but we recognize that the political realities must be faced if we are to break the long deadlock on this question.

I am aware that the Great Powers, because of their world responsibility, may show some concern over the application of this or that particular candidate or group of candidates. I am convinced, however, that this should not necessarily lead them to oppose the desire of what I believe is a substantial majority of members of this Assembly for as quick and as broad an advance towards universality of membership as may be possible.

The basic political reality which we cannot ignore is that if this organization is not truly representative of the great majority of the countries of the world it will be unable to make its full contribution to settling the problems of the world.

In the view of my delegation, we should all be prepared to examine carefully the possibility of the admission at the same time of a very large proportion of the outstanding applicants. There are, of course, particular difficulties with reference to the admission of countries temporarily divided, but we believe that serious consideration might be given to the early admission of the other applicants.

(At this point I should like to question Mr. Molotov's mathematics. In his address on Friday he referred to 16 applicants. According to the figures compiled by my delegation, if we exclude the divided applicants, there remain 17 candidates. So I say with respect but with much confidence, we hope that Mr. Molotov will look into this question again and find it possible to make this essential correction.)

A particular question which under the terms of the Charter comes now to our attention is whether a conference should be convened for the purpose of reviewing the Charter.

Charter Review

Unless there appears to be a general desire to hold a Charter review conference at this time we are inclined to think that there would be no particular advantage in pressing for it. On the contrary, there would probably be considerable advantage in convening that conference after the political differences which divide us have to some extent become reconciled. We might well ask ourselves, at this stage, whether the relaxation in tension would be stimulated as a result of a Charter conference. We do not think that the Charter is a perfect instrument, but we do think that, in a better political climate, we can construct on its solid foundation a more effective instrument than we now have.

Whether we decide to review the Charter or not, the Assembly as we see it should consider the useful and timely proposals put forward by the Secretary-General in his Annual Report on the Work of the Organization concerning the greater