

WRY (June 1959 to June 1960), 97 countries, including Canada, took part in the campaign and contributed more than \$83 million (U.S.). The Canadian Government's contribution to WRY was \$1 million in wheat flour to UNRWA and up to \$600,000 for the admission, in three movements, of 325 tubercular refugees to Canada, who have now been treated in sanatoria and resettled. These refugees were accompanied by 501 dependents. In addition to the movement of tubercular refugees, Canadian participation in WRY resulted in the admission to Canada of over 5,000 refugees, including 1,097 from camps in Italy and Germany.

UNRWA

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) was established in 1949 to provide relief and rehabilitation for about 950,000 Arab refugees who lost their homes and their means of livelihood as a result of the Palestine hostilities of 1948-49. Owing to natural population increase, these refugees now number more than 1.3 million. The Agency was set up to co-operate with local governments in direct relief and works programmes in the Middle East and to consult these governments on measures to be taken until such time as international assistance for relief and works programmes were no longer available or the refugees were able to exercise the choice between repatriation and compensation offered to them by resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. As originally envisaged, the Agency's mandate was to run for a limited period. However, political considerations have impeded plans for solving the refugee problem and the General Assembly has found it expedient to renew the mandate several times. It is now due to expire on June 30, 1968.

To finance its various current activities, UNRWA needs about \$39 million annually. Owing to increasing demands for relief, health and educational services and to rising costs in the countries where the Agency operates, it has in recent years faced serious financial difficulties. Accordingly, the Commissioner-General of UNRWA has urged regular contributors to continue granting assistance and has appealed to others to help in meeting the Agency's needs.

Canada has customarily ranked high among the regular annual contributors to UNRWA. In total contributions since 1949, Canada stands third, behind the two major contributors, the United States and Britain. For the fiscal year 1967-68, the Canadian Government is contributing about \$2.8 million to UNRWA. Of this amount, \$1.3 million is emergency assistance which Canada agreed to provide following UNRWA's appeal to countries for additional contributions to meet the urgent needs of persons dislocated by the recent hostilities in the Middle East. Canada's contribution to UNRWA for 1967-68 consists of \$500,000 in cash, \$2 million in wheat flour and about \$300,000 in transportation assistance. Canadian assistance to UNRWA is motivated primarily by humanitarian considerations. The Canadian Government also believes that UNRWA's subsidiary educational and vocational-training programme is vital to the maintenance of peace in the area and to the ultimate liquidation of the problem of refugees by facilitating their rehabilitation.