

on steps to improve relations between Israel and Jordan. During the next twelve months a Canadian, Major-General E. L. M. Burns, will carry the grave responsibility of Chief of Staff of the Organization.

The Economic and Social Council, the Specialized Agencies and their respective subordinate organs and affiliates have carried on the valuable work which is described in detail in the appropriate sections of this book. Much of it, especially on the technical and scientific side, is a quiet continuation and expansion of the forms of specialized international co-operation which, in their essence, were inherited from the scholars of the Middle Ages and Renaissance and were so notably developed during the nineteenth century. Important as they are, they offer little that is dramatic or startling and would be remarkable only in their cessation or loss. In other fields, the assumption of an international scale of the obligation to assist in the planned change of economic and social patterns and the sharing of economic, social and technical skills which is written into the Charter, is a new development in international relations. It is therefore neither surprising nor alarming that certain projects — the Covenants on Human Rights, the proposals for establishing an international fund for economic development and an international finance corporation — have not reached final fruition. The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, on the other hand, has developed both in scope and efficiency and remains one of the most successful of the efforts made by the United Nations to achieve the world-wide reduction of want and ignorance. Canada's belief in the efficacy and importance of the programme was affirmed during the year by an increase of almost 100 per cent in Canada's monetary contribution to technical assistance.

The past year has been an important one in the history of the United Nations as a functioning organization. The new Secretary-General, who has approached his task with clear-sighted vigour and a statesmanlike grasp of reality, has carried out what, in his own words, he describes as a "continuous, intensive and critical" review of the Secretariat and the tasks assigned to it "for the purpose of ascertaining how, with due regard both to its capacities and its limitations, it can better fulfil the responsibilities placed upon it". A considerable part of this responsibility for making the most rational use of the Secretariat's services rests with member states, which have an obligation — not always discharged — to exercise discretion and restraint in the choice of projects to be assigned to it. Changes have been made in the staff regulations which, together with the opinion handed down by the International Court of Justice on July 13, will do much to clarify the rights and responsibilities of the international civil servant and to establish them on a firm basis.

In accordance with Article 109 of the Charter, which originated in a Canadian proposal at San Francisco, there will be an item on the agenda of the tenth session of the Assembly in 1955 regarding the desirability of holding a review conference. A number of constitutional studies have been undertaken, by the Secretariat, and in Canada and elsewhere, as a preliminary to the consideration of the question. At this point in the history of the United Nations,