

opened new opportunities for agreement.

The Canadian Government strongly supports the proposal, originally made by the Mexican delegate to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee, that a target date, January 1, 1963, should be set for the cessation of all tests. This date has been accepted in principle by the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union.

As a minimum first step, agreement could be reached immediately on the final cessation of nuclear tests in the atmosphere, under water and in outer space. To have a comprehensive treaty, underground tests must be included. The question barring agreement on such a treaty is whether the parties shall be obligated to permit inspections on their territories when other means of determining whether there has been an underground nuclear explosion fail to give a definite answer. This is a difficult problem, involving dangers to the security of the nations concerned, but the dangers which result from the lack of a solution are immeasurably greater.

If the Great Powers cannot reach agreement on this issue, prospects for general and complete disarmament will be dim. They can and must resolve their differences in this field if they are to fulfill their obligation to mankind. The General Assembly should clearly express itself in this sense.

RADIATION

I revert now to the hazards to human health created by nuclear testing. The Second Comprehensive report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation brings out the danger very clearly in the following statement: