

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: There have been meetings at the United Nations at which after six or seven hours of wrangling one might come to wish that the Russian delegation were not there, but that would be an unsound basis on which to formulate a policy in regard to membership in the United Nations. Our position remains as previously stated, that we should not do anything to the detriment of the universal character of the United Nations membership. Certainly, I think we would be unwise if we took steps to drive the U.S.S.R. out of the organization. If they wish to withdraw from the organization, or if they took steps which resulted in their withdrawal from the organization I think that shall be their responsibility and not ours. I think there is still some value in maintaining even in theory the universality of one world organization.

Mr. COLDWELL: On this question of universality I seem to recall that there was some suggestion that a resolution might be moved in the assembly to admit all those nations that are now excluded either by opposition from democratic nations or by opposition from the communist countries. Was there anything further done about that?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: No, it was not, if I remember correctly, proceeded with. It got very little support.

Mr. COLDWELL: It got very little support?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: Yes.

Mr. STICK: I would like to ask the minister a question about the meeting of deputy foreign ministers in Paris. They seem to be holding quite a number of meetings and so far, apparently, have not been able to decide on an agenda, and I was wondering if the minister would care to make any comment on that. I suppose we are not interested in that directly.

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: We are of course interested in it. I noticed in the press this morning that the sixtieth meeting of the deputy foreign ministers took place and it lasted five minutes. They seem to be taking a long time to agree on an agenda. I suppose this may be taken to mean that the U.S.S.R. have not yet decided whether they want a meeting of the foreign ministers this summer or not. It may be that they have not made up their minds, and if they have not decided they may stall along indefinitely.

Mr. STICK: Have we any liaison there?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: We have very good reports on what goes on at any of these meetings. We hope that they will be able to agree on an agenda and that a meeting of foreign ministers can take place. I think the advantages of such a meeting probably outweigh the disadvantages.

Mr. COLDWELL: Is there any possibility that the deputy foreign ministers cannot agree?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: Yes, it is possible, but even if the deputy foreign ministers fail to agree, suppose they report that they were not able to agree on an agenda, or report an alternative agenda, then it would still be open to the foreign ministers themselves to hold a meeting.

Mr. COLDWELL: But apparently they have not made up their minds. Do you know whether they have or not?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I do not know. I do not think they have made up their minds. Moscow may not know what it wants to do.

Mr. Low: What is Canada's present attitude toward the admission of communist China to the U.N.?

Hon. Mr. PEARSON: I tried to deal with that a little while ago. I said that so long as this war of open aggression and fighting in Korea continued the question should not even be considered.

Mr. COLDWELL: Was north Korea ever a member of the United Nations?