

and under it the Disarmament Sub-Committee, which was set up by the United Nations, really came to an end at the end of 1957. The Soviet leaders said they would not participate in any further discussions in the Disarmament Commission or in its Sub-Committee. So there came about direct negotiations between the United States, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.S.R. with respect to the cessation of nuclear tests.

Last July and August Canada participated in a meeting of experts held in Geneva to study this whole question of the identification and detection of nuclear tests. Canada had a strong team at that meeting. Indeed, it may be a sad commentary that the scientists could agree where the diplomats and the politicians could not agree. But the fact is that out of that conference of experts there came a unanimously adopted report on effective methods for the detection of nuclear testing.

Then on October 31, 1958 there was assembled in Geneva a group of men, at the non-technical level, to draft a treaty which would provide for the cessation of nuclear tests, and would also provide for the machinery whereby that treaty could be fully implemented. We were rather encouraged about a month ago that progress in that conference had been made to the extent that four articles of that treaty had been agreed upon and settled. However, we realized that many complex questions were still to be settled. The question with respect to the composition - that is, the nationality - of personnel in control stations, and the composition of personnel in mobile units had to be decided, and above all the methods of procedure which would be provided in the treaty for the organization - the control commission, or whatever it might be called - whereby they would conduct their business.

Sir, without going into any of the details I am bound to report that the old question of veto arose again in those discussions. The U.S.S.R. wanted, and want at the moment, to have a veto with respect to certain inspections that might be proposed in that country. Mr. Khrushchev in his recent statement of February 24 said they were not going to have spies and intelligence officers from the West discovering what is their military strength and potential. Well, Mr. Speaker, I am bound to observe this, that any machinery set up under a treaty for the cessation of nuclear tests which does not provide for inspection and control would be misleading and deceptive, and dangerous to the West.

Then I must observe, despite some foreshadowing of an adjournment of those talks which is to be found in the press only this morning, that we do hope and pray that that question of machinery for detection, and so forth, may be satisfactorily settled. As I said a moment ago, and I repeat, mankind everywhere, I am sure, must pray for at least one step to be taken