

great weight. During the experimental year which is proposed, it is probable that the Interim Committee should consider the effect of only such important resolutions as are referred to it by this Assembly. The Committee itself might later consider whether, in the long run, it would be useful for the Assembly to have before it, when it meets, a report on the implementation of its resolutions.

There are also certain parts in the United States resolution which we think might be deleted. The Interim Committee will be both temporary and experimental in character, and we are not satisfied that at this stage it should be asked to assume the very general responsibilities which arise from Article 11 (1) and 13 (1) (B) of the Charter. The instrument which we are proposing to create may well prove so useful that we shall wish to extend its duties in this respect. At first, however, we should like to see excluded from its terms of reference the wide-ranging responsibilities which were suggested by these two Articles. The Canadian delegation is, however, in full agreement with the idea that the terms of reference of the Committee should give it full authority to consider all matters in regard to peace and security which come within the competence of the General Assembly. For this reason we would favour a reference to Article 35 as well as to Article 14 in the terms of reference of the Committee.

Within the areas which I have suggested, we consider that the Interim Committee should be given clearly defined responsibilities. It should have the right to discuss fully any subject which comes on its agenda, to conduct investigations and to make reports and recommendations to the General Assembly, either in regular or special session. We do not think that it should have any other powers, nor do we consider that it should be established at this time for longer than an experimental period of one year. We agree with the United States proposal that it should be a committee of the whole Assembly.

Before I conclude may I support the appeal, or was it a warning, made yesterday by the delegate from France: that this committee should not become a platform for the rehashing of political propaganda of the kind we are becoming all too familiar with in this Assembly. If the Interim Committee were to be used by certain delegations merely for the reading and distortion of press statements by and about individuals, well-known and obscure, or for the endless repetition of groundless assertions that certain individuals are war-mongers and certain peoples straining at the leash to overthrow their free and democratic systems of government, then the committee might become a liability rather than an asset and its discussions as intolerable as they have once or twice threatened to become in this committee.

Mr. Chairman, we are building in the United Nations a structure for international co-operation which must endure. Our hopes depend upon its success. Its weakness lessens the security of each one of us. If the experiment which we are contemplating will have the effect of making the organization more effective, and that is our only purpose in supporting it, it will repay a thousandfold the effort which we shall expend upon it. The Canadian delegation will gladly co-operate in making the experiment in the hope that the instrument we are creating may help speedily to remove the circumstances which make it necessary.