

Whatever the arrangements contemplated, I should like to make it clear that my Delegation could not accept that the Gentleman's Agreement of 1946 should be regarded as having been overtaken by events and be scrapped without the concurrence of the parties to that Agreement. The Gentleman's Agreement is still valid, and cannot be modified without the concurrence of the parties to it. As a member of the Commonwealth, Canada is not prepared to give this concurrence, and surrender its claim to representation on the Security Council. Could the Eastern European group, whose seat was considered as counterbalancing the Commonwealth seat under the Gentleman's Agreement? And would the Latin American group, the Western European group, or even the Middle Eastern group?

New seats must be provided to accommodate the new members and to give them the representation, the equitable representation, to which they are entitled. The urgency of doing this has already been demonstrated by the "liberties", if I may use that expression, which have been taken in recent times with the agreed allocation of seats. If I understood the Soviet representative correctly in his statement on Tuesday, it was to these "liberties" that he objected. He did not contemplate the disappearance of the East European seat. In fact, he wanted a full one, all the time, for a group whose numbers are in the mathematical ratio not fully sufficient to warrant it. And in the General Committee, again, he was providing for a Vice-President every year, for a Chairmanship every year, and for a rotation of the Presidency purely on a group basis, irrespective of whether a group was of eight or sixteen or even thirty-two.

Certainly the arrangements for recasting the Councils will call for the most careful consultation of all the interests concerned. This could be achieved by the establishment of a negotiating body, the desirability of which could become evident in view of the multiplicity of the interests involved and the considerations which have a bearing on the allocation of seats within the expanded Councils.

In considering to what extent the Councils should be enlarged, my Delegation considers that the figure decided upon should take into account not only geographical factors but also the institutional needs of the Councils.