

expression and satisfaction only through the United Nations.

Outer Space

I have mentioned the hope of the Canadian Government that a start may be made, perhaps by means of a discussion of the technical details involved, on an effort to develop an agreement which will ensure that outer space will be used exclusively for peaceful and scientific purposes. The Canadian Government accordingly welcomes the proposal of the United States that the General Assembly should establish a committee to study the potentialities for international collaboration in the peaceful uses of outer space and to make recommendations for action by the United Nations. Last February, the Prime Minister of Canada spoke of the desirability of establishing an international space agency which would assure that jurisdiction in outer space would be vested in the United Nations and would ensure its use only for peaceful and scientific purposes. We have been devoting attention to the possibilities of international collaboration and we desire to share the results of our studies with any committee which the General Assembly may decide to establish.

Law of the Sea

Another subject to which I must briefly refer is the Law of the Sea. It will be recalled that, pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 1105 (XI) of February 21, 1957, eighty-six nations gathered in Geneva last February to attend the International Conference on the Law of the Sea. Very significant results indeed were reached at this Conference on a wide variety of questions. The four conventions which were drawn up by the Conference may be said to constitute a code of almost the whole range of maritime law, and stand out as one of the most notable achievements in the recent history of international law. Unfortunately, no agreement could be reached by a two thirds majority vote of the Conference on the difficult and exceedingly important questions of the breadth of the territorial sea and of a coastal state's right to a contiguous fishing zone.

The distinguished representatives are undoubtedly aware that recent events in the North Atlantic area have dramatically, if dangerously, demonstrated the great necessity of reaching agreement on a rule of law for these questions. I think that it is beyond dispute that there is, as illustrated in this area, an urgent need for the adoption by the international community of nations of a rule of law which can serve to reconcile the conflicting interests of various states and which can command the respect of all nations. The present situation regarding the Law of the Sea cannot be allowed to deteriorate further.

At Geneva, the Canadian Delegation put forward a proposal which in its final form would have given states the right to fix their territorial sea up to six miles and a fishing zone contiguous to its territorial sea extending twelve miles from the baselines from which the territorial sea is measured,