

I think that we will eventually stop this communist expansion and will bring about the restoration of that confidence and security so necessary to make worth while and properly fruitful the time and energies we have been devoting and are devoting to the international conferences and agencies set up under the United Nations.

I told you in opening that I would have something to say about what has been accomplished so far by and under the United Nations because there is much to encourage us in the growth of international co-operation throughout the last three years.

It is a rather sad reflection upon our human nature that for most of us there is little news interest in the achievements of those United Nations agencies which have made undoubted progress toward a better ordering of the world's health and food and education, of world transport and communication, of law and human liberties.

Within the last three years, some ten or twelve agencies for international action have come into existence and into active operation.

Within the secure framework of a lasting peace, it is now quite clear that mankind can work together effectively to prevent disaster and tragedy and to increase the sum of the world's happiness and prosperity.

I think it is well to remind ourselves that there have been established in association with the United Nations certain valuable agencies for international co-operation.

One of these, indeed, the International Labour Organization, dates from the Treaty of Versailles of 1919. For almost thirty years now the I.L.O. has had the task of improving labour conditions and living standards through international action, and of promoting economic and social stability. Through its activities, which, of course, are still continuing, the safety of workers in mines and factories and in ships has been safeguarded by a series of conventions and agreements which have had wide international acceptance. The work of this great international organization has never been spectacular, but it has been a powerful agency for the creation of international understanding and for the establishment of internationally accepted standards of living and of working conditions.

I might perhaps refer, too, to the Food and Agriculture Organization which came into existence in 1946. There has lately been established by it a World Food Council on which Canada and representatives of seventeen other countries throughout the world are represented. The F.A.O. is doing what it can to ensure that exportable food surpluses are used to best advantage and also that the world's supply of farm machinery and of soil fertilizers are properly allocated in accordance with the world's needs. It is the aim of this very unspectacular organization to more than double the total world agricultural production in the course of the next twenty years.