

PEACE THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS

ments of Trade and Commerce, Reconstruction and Supply, External Affairs and the National Research Council. By this means the armed services were able to contribute invaluable technical and scientific information to Canadian industry and government.

Exploitation was carried out by Canada through participation of investigators with British and American agencies, whose advanced teams entered Germany with Allied spearheads and quickly evaluated all scientific and industrial targets as they were captured.

In the medical field much interesting information was uncovered. Valuable synthetic rubber and chemical processes, metallurgical and lubricant developments, coal mining techniques, glues for plywood, electronic and photographic developments are included in the many items of value to Canadian industry. A considerable amount of military and industrial equipment has been brought to Canada as well as a large number of books requested by scientific and university libraries in this country. Several German techniques have been brought over to assist in establishing new industry.

With the disbandment of the committee, the chairman, Commander R.H. Macdonald, and the secretary, Major C.H. Stewart, will resume their full time work in the Defence Research Board and will retain the library there. Other functions of the committee will be taken over by those government departments having a continued interest in them.

ARMY'S COLD WEATHER TRAINING: Winter training for the Canadian Army is now at its peak.

While the majority of the personnel stationed in arctic and sub-arctic regions are employed on the Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System; on the Alaska Highway and at the Joint Experimental Station at Churchill; almost 200 members of the Active Force are participating in, or training for, two winter training exercises far from civilization. These are Exercise Moccasin, an eight weeks' camping venture in frozen wastelands south of Fort Churchill, and Exercise Haines II, a two months' cold weather training scheme being conducted by men of the PPCLI, the 2nd Armoured Regiment (Lord Strathcona's Horse), and the Royal Canadian Engineers in the vicinity of Whitehorse, Y.T.

The Canadian Army has been associated with development in northern Canada since 1898 when the Army sent the Yukon Field Force to the northern frontier to help to keep law and order during the hectic days of the gold rush.

It was not, however, until after the First Great War that it really began to take an interest in the arctic and commenced the organization of the chain of radio stations that now link so many northern outposts. The first two of these stations were established in the Yukon at Dawson and Mayo in 1923, and since

then the System has grown to such an extent that Army personnel now man 24 remote settlements that, because of the military, soon may not be as remote as they now appear.

EXPORT CONTROLS RELAXED: The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. C.D. Howe announces the removal of a number of items from export control in continuation of a policy instituted shortly after the termination of hostilities. Chief changes under the amendment are release from controls of wool and woollen goods, rayon manufactures, paints, varnishes and pigments. Among other categories affected are candy, paper and paper products, fish liver oils and all fish except halibut and salmon, toilet paper and fibre containers.

In all cases it is now considered that the domestic supply is adequate and that the export control is no longer necessary. For example, storage batteries are removed because the supply of lead is now believed to be satisfactory; canned foods containing poultry are removed because the discontinuance of the poultry contract with Britain renders unnecessary the control imposed to insure the fulfilment. Other commodities such as candies and cocoa products are not sufficiently large export items to warrant the continuance of controls especially as domestic needs are being satisfied.

NORTHERN WIRELESS STATIONS: Three new wireless stations have been planned to be added to the existing 21 of the Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System, operated by the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

The stations will be located at Brochet, Man., Dubrawnt Lake and Wrigley, Northwest Territories. Supplies are already being hauled by tractor train into Brochet but construction has not yet begun on the other stations. Wrigley, the site of a Royal Canadian Corps of Signals station which was closed down last year, is now being re-opened to operate on a permanent basis.

In addition to supplying communications throughout the north, the Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System is a valuable source of meteorological information. All NWT & Y operators are trained to take meteorological readings and reports are rendered several times daily to the Central Weather Bureau in Toronto from all stations of the system.

WHEAT EXPORTS: Exports of Canadian wheat in 1947 totalled 160,426,359 bushels, showing a moderate increase over the preceding year's total of 157,529,351 bushels, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Wheat flour exports moved up to 18,081,882 barrels from 14,984,287 in 1946, or by 26 per cent.

MR. PEARSON ON COURSES OF ACTION: Lester B. Pearson, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, addressing the annual dinner of the Toronto Board of Trade, January 26, 1948, discussed the two-year record of the United Nations. He spoke of threats to a peace uneasily balancing itself on the thin edge of fear, of two super powers, the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., watching each other across a widening chasm of suspicion and mistrust.

The way out, Mr. Pearson held, lay in the growth of the United Nations into an organization which would really guarantee security.

He suggested three possible courses of action:

(1) To carry on as we have been doing, in the hope that the international situation, may in time improve to the point where the defects and weaknesses of the UN Charter, which now seem so glaring, will become academic, where unanimity of the Great Powers will be expressed positively by action for peace.

(2) The second, at the other extreme, to insist on a suitable amendment to the Charter and, if that is blocked by a veto (amendment is subject to the veto) then to scrap the present organization and form a new one with a Charter that will permit it to work. If any state wished to stay out, that would be its privilege and its responsibility.

This drastic course should be adopted only as a last desperate resort.

(3) The third way would retain the present Charter, but frankly recognize that within the present United Nations certain members were determined to form a collective system which would really guarantee their own collective security, even if this could be done only on a limited basis of membership.

This third way would not be an offensive and defensive alliance of the old type. There could be nothing offensive about it because it would be bound by all the obligations and restraints of the Charter. But it would be much broader and go much deeper than the alliances of old. It would be a genuine pooling of resources, spiritual and material, for purposes of collective defence. It would threaten no state and no state would have anything to fear from it which based its own actions on the principles and provisions of the Charter. It would merely be the recognition by certain states of the necessity of a collective system for defence which would be really effective; for accumulating under international control and outside the veto such a terrific preponderance of power that no one would dare to commit an aggression.

Opening his address, Mr. Pearson said there was less feeling of one world in a political

or spiritual sense than at any time perhaps since the break-up of the Roman Empire. That break-up splintered mankind into hundreds of political and social fragments. Current developments were breaking mankind into, not twenty, but two fragments and that was more sinister and more dangerous.

One world and one government might come suddenly and terribly by one of these two worlds becoming an aggressor, over-running the other, and bombing and blasting all peoples into submission. That would simply mean the peace and order of the cemetery. Either the conquered world would become slaves of the global conqueror, or more probably, victors and vanquished alike would perish.

Mr. Pearson continued:

The United Nations is not yet very old - two years - about half the time it takes to produce a baby elephant or a graduate in arts at Toronto university. So we have no right to be impatient or unduly critical if all our hopes for the United Nations have not been realized or if its accomplishments have not been great. It took three years to plan D-Day, and we may surely be given a little more time than that to bring about the millennium.

It is not the lack of concrete accomplishment that provokes grave doubts about the capability of the organization to do the job it was given, to keep the peace. It is a realization that this may be made impossible by international developments, more particularly by the embitterment and intensification of ideological and political conflicts, between the two super powers, the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., each watching the other across a widening chasm of suspicion and mistrust; each a leader of the two groups into which the world is tragically dividing.

In this political climate, the United Nations, even with a perfect charter, could not guarantee peace and security. In this political climate and with an imperfect charter, the structural weaknesses of the organization are becoming depressingly apparent, and are in their turn exposing and encouraging trends and tendencies which weaken it even further. The fact is that the United Nations was founded on the ability and desire of the great powers to work together for peace. Given that desire, the present charter would be satisfactory and the powers of the organization sufficient. Without that desire, the United Nations is ineffective as a law enforcing and peace preserving agency. It cannot instil any confidence in its ability to chastise speedily and effectively any nation that violates its charter or threatens security. Any such punitive action against a great power is impossible and even action against a small power is virtually so, because most small powers now have big friends.

The expression of this powerlessness - but