

their unwillingness to accept deputy membership on the Conference's committees. Consequently, they were not seated on these committees in any capacity.¹

At the 42nd session the Credentials Committee's majority report rejected the government employer and worker delegates from Hungary, as well as their technical advisers. This decision was upheld in plenary session.

During 1958 the Governing Body (of which Canada is a permanent member) held three sessions at which it discussed fact-finding machinery on freedom of association, future action in the field of civil aviation, finances, the world employment situation, methods of improving the programme of ILO conferences and meetings, the agendas of various ILO meetings, the reports of numerous committees and conferences, and other matters. Tripartite Canadian Delegations participated during the year in meetings of the Chemical Industries Committee and the Textiles Committee, and in an *ad hoc* meeting on the timber industry. In addition, there were Canadian experts at a meeting on conditions of work and employment of nurses, and a meeting on teachers' problems.

The ILO's operational programme continued to expand during 1958. Plans were developed for courses and meetings on workers' education, and for a series of on-the-spot, fact-finding surveys on trade union rights and freedom of association in member countries. (The first two surveys in 1959 are to be in the Soviet and the United States). In the field of technical assistance, projects were continued in manpower training, vocational rehabilitation and employment services. The majority of these projects as in past years were financed by the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance of the United Nations, and were designed to assist under-developed countries to improve their industrial standards.

Food and Agriculture Organization

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) had its beginnings in the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture held in May, 1943 at Hot Springs, Virginia, when plans were laid for dealing with expected postwar problems in this field. In October, 1945 FAO was established at a conference held at Quebec City with a membership of 42 countries, including Canada. Since that time the Organization has developed into one of the largest and most important of the United Nations Specialized Agencies and now has a membership of seventy-seven countries. The headquarters moved from Washington to Rome in 1951.

The objectives of the Organization are to raise levels of nutrition and living standards, improve the production and distribution of food, agricultural, fisheries and forestry products, and to stimulate better rural conditions. To this end FAO collects, analyses and distributes technical and economic information relating to food and agriculture, and encourages national and international action to achieve its purposes. The supreme governing body of the Organization is the FAO Conference, which normally meets every second year. (The next meeting is scheduled for November, 1959.) The Conference elects a 24-member Council which normally meets twice a year to decide issues involving policy. Canada has a seat on the Council.

¹The recommendations of a tripartite committee of the Governing Body, which has been studying practical methods to improve the working of the International Labour Conference, including the above-mentioned problem, have been recommended for the consideration of the 43rd session of the International Labour Conference in June, 1959.