

This Assembly will have to deal with a number of items relating directly to atomic energy. In the first place, there is the report of the Secretary-General on the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy held in Geneva from August 8 to August 20. This conference has been widely and quite properly acclaimed as a great success, and I think it is a matter of satisfaction to us all that such a conference was organized by the United Nations. I should like to pay a word of tribute to the Secretary-General personally for his part in making the conference a success. In this, as in so many other things, he and the Secretariat have demonstrated their efficiency and imagination. The conference was, indeed, a fitting implementation of the unanimous resolution on international cooperation in developing the peaceful use of atomic energy adopted in the ninth General Assembly. I am confident that this conference will not be a unique and isolated event but that it will be followed by other meetings and developments which will build on the foundation now established for international cooperation in the peaceful development of atomic energy.

Perhaps I may be permitted to recall at this point that Canada has played a not inconsiderable role in the dramatic search that has led to the harnessing of the restless energy of the atom. I will take occasion later when the appropriate items are being discussed in committee to report on our activities in developing industrial and agricultural uses of radioactive isotopes and such medical applications as the use of Cobalt 60 Beam Therapy in the treatment of cancer as well as what we are doing in the field of radiation detection and its health aspects.

The extensive work which Canada has done on the peaceful uses of atomic energy has made it possible for us now to extend assistance abroad. We have recently arranged to provide the Government of India with an atomic reactor. It has been a source of satisfaction to my country to be able to share our resources in this way with a country to which we are so closely tied in bonds of friendship and partnership. We are happy also that this reactor will benefit our other friends in Asia by reason of the intention of the Indian Government to allow scientists from neighbouring countries to use their facilities.

It is our desire in Canada to co-operate insofar as possible with the great evolutionary movements in South and Southeast Asia. Our admiration for the peoples of these countries has been constantly strengthened by our personal association in the United Nations and the Colombo Plan and more recently with the International Supervisory Commissions in Indochina. I should like to say here a special word for the peoples of Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam for whom so many Canadians have come to have a deep respect and affection in the past year and who, we sincerely hope, will soon be able to take their rightful places in our councils. It seems to us quite wrong that so many of these Asian countries have been arbitrarily prevented from joining us here in the United Nations.

If anyone were to doubt the role which the countries of Asia can play in this Assembly he should study the proceedings of that great conference which took place at Bandung last spring. It was an impressive assembly of distinguished representatives of two continents which brought great credit to those who had initiated that conference. It may not be that we would agree with all of the conclusions of the conference, but we pay tribute to the wisdom and the moderation of men who have preserved their perspective and their proportion through times of