



FIRST COMMITTEE IN SESSION

—United Nations

The Secretary of State for External Affairs and Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the Sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly in Paris, Mr. L. B. Pearson, addresses the Political and Security (First) Committee during the debate on disarmament.

with member and non-member states regarding funds which governments might be willing to contribute, on a voluntary basis, toward programmes not provided for in the regular budget of the United Nations, in particular the Korean and Palestine aid programmes and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

International Children's Emergency Fund

On December 11, 1951, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, better known as UNICEF, completed its fifth year of operation. The General Assembly, in the resolution which established the Fund in 1946, was concerned with getting help speedily, and on a large scale, to the millions of children in dire need in the war-devastated countries. However, the addition to the resolution, of the phrase . . . "and for child health purposes generally" enabled the Fund to extend its aid to another large category of children in need: those in the under-developed countries.

By the time present programmes are completed, more than 42,000,000 children, chiefly in under-developed areas in Africa, Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean countries, and Latin America, will have directly benefited. The shift from emergency relief to long-range projects has been under way for some months. The Fund is continuing to meet emergencies, as in Korea and Palestine and, more recently, in Italy, but for the most part its assistance is now being given for two purposes: the building up of a country's own maternal and child health and welfare services, including the conduct of large-scale campaigns against communicable disease; and child-feeding and related undertakings.

This emphasis on meeting the long-range need was apparent in the programmes approved by the Fund's 26-nation Executive Board, meeting in Paris in November 1951. The trend is perhaps even more noticeable in the Fund's projected budget,