



Bulletin

Vol. 24, No. 42

October 15, 1969

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INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The following passages are from a statement by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the United Nations General Assembly on September 29:

...As the United Nations approaches its twenty-fifth anniversary, it is faced with three imperatives: *first*, to avoid the scourge of global war and to contain and settle more limited conflicts; *second*, to speed the way to economic and social justice for the hundreds of millions of people who are now deprived of both; and *third*, to come to grips with the serious institutional problems facing the organization at this time. This morning I shall have something to say on each of these matters as they appear to the Canadian Government.

Of these imperatives the first two – the prevention of war and the struggle to raise the standard of living – are perhaps as old as mankind itself. The third – to strengthen and renew this organization – is new, and is peculiar to this time and this place. I choose, however, to deal with this question first, since Canada believes that the United Nations must fail to reach its goals if it cannot come to grips with its own problems. It is hard indeed to build something of value, something that will stand, if your tools are blunted and ill-designed for your purpose.

In addressing myself to this question, I should like it to be absolutely clear that the criticisms I have to make and the remedies I shall suggest come from an active and loyal member of the family of nations represented here. Canada has shown its confidence in this organization by its wholehearted participation in all aspects of the work of the United Nations. We could not conceive of a world in which the UN did not have a central and vital role to play.

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

The institutional problems facing this organization are difficult in themselves. They are compounded by the fact that, because of their intractability, there is something like a tacit conspiracy, in which we have all joined, to pretend they don't exist. The situation might be compared to the cumulative effect of pollution in a lake or the action of the sea on the foundations of Venice – failing vigorous corrective measures, a slow but certain process of destruction is going on all the time. If we do not act, there is a very real danger that the UN, instead of fulfilling its high purpose as a center for harmonizing the actions of nations in the achievement of the objectives set out in the Charter, will become a sideshow on the international scene, its activities brushed aside as irrelevant.

TOO MANY WORDS

There are three areas in which remedial action is imperative: *First*: The UN (including all its organs and associated Agencies) is drowning in a sea of words. Talk is of the essence at the UN, but to be useful it must be kept within reasonable bounds. As we all know, this is not being done. The number of conferences, meetings, and the paper they produce, have increased to the point that even those members with the largest resources have difficulty in providing competent representation and coping with the flood of paper. As the conference load increases, there has been a corresponding decrease in effectiveness. This had led governments to attach less importance to the UN activities and efforts. The credibility of the UN

as a negotiating forum and as an instrument for resolving the world's problems is wasting away. Public confidence in the organization is being weakened and public support is being undermined.

We can and should act to arrest this process by identifying priorities and dealing with them in an effective and businesslike way. We must also find the new techniques needed to deal with the problem of the unwieldy size of UN committees and boards, particularly those responsible for UN action programs in the all important field of development. Some of these boards are almost as large as the UN itself was not so many years ago, and have proved ill-suited to fulfill the purposes for which they were created. I urge these measures because I believe they are essential to the future progress of the organization. At the same time, we should acknowledge that such remedial action can only deal with the symptoms rather than the disease itself. Member nations, locked in outdated conceptions of sovereignty and national interest, find debate to be a convenient substitute for action. So long as this attitude persists, the UN cannot hope to fulfill the aspirations of its founders.

CONFRONTATION VERSUS NEGOTIATION

Second: Even with the benefit of nearly a quarter-century of experience, we don't seem to have learned the lesson that confrontation between nations is no substitute for negotiation. During the past few years, there has been mounting evidence that the great powers have recognized the sterility of cold war policies, but we have yet to see this realization translated into effective action. There is also the practice, which has become so common that it is taken for granted, of forcing the Assembly to vote on resolutions that attempt to translate moral judgments into calls for action for which the organization manifestly has not the capacity, or, in some cases, the legal authority to carry out. Resolutions of this kind only hurt the cause they purport to serve.

NEED FOR BUDGET CONSOLIDATION

Third: The programs and activities carried out by the UN family of organizations have multiplied during the last ten years. During that period, the total of the assessed budgets has more than doubled, and if the present growth-rate were to continue, would reach half a billion dollars by 1974. The absence of effective control of budget expansion has meant that priorities have become blurred. Programs have been carried on long after they have ceased to be relevant to needs. Persons with inadequate qualifications or capacities have been recruited and kept on rather than weeded out, and as a result the quality of the work of the organization has deteriorated. The cure for this illness is a period of consolidation of existing activities before striking out in too many new directions. Action of this kind will enable us to take best advantage of the useful advice that will be forthcoming in the report of the enlarged committee on

program and co-ordination and in Sir Robert Jackson's study on the capacity of UN Agencies to administer development assistance programs.

I feel that I must express in the strongest terms my conviction that continued failure to deal effectively with these institutional problems has already begun to erode the foundations of the UN as a cathedral of hope for the aspirations of mankind. Powerful and wealthy nations may be able to contemplate this process with only a modicum of concern. For most member nations represented here, however, such a prospect is intolerable....

THE PARAMOUNT CHALLENGE

To keep the peace, this is the primary purpose of the UN. The supreme challenge is to find something better than the balance of mutual fear and deterrence on which the present uneasy structure of global security rests. The new weapons now in the final stages of development in the U.S.S.R. and U.S.A. give a new urgency to this task. Unless the world seizes this moment to stop the upward spiral in arms-race technology, we run a very real risk of a breakdown in the equilibrium of deterrence that now provides what security we have. I should like to say here, that Canada regards the strategic-arms limitations talks that the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. have agreed to hold as the most significant development in recent years. We urge both parties to begin at once. If the talks are entered upon in good faith, with goodwill and without delay, they could prove to be a turning-point in world history.

At the last session of the UN General Assembly, Canada joined most members of the UN in welcoming the achievement of a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. We were the first nation with nuclear capacity to ratify this treaty. What the treaty contains is important enough, but its promises are at least equally significant. None of the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty is more vital than Article VI, in which all parties to the Treaty - and this applies particularly to the nuclear powers - agree "to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear-arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament".

Should we be discouraged by the slow rate of progress or by the fact that, although some 90 countries signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty, only 17 have deposited the necessary instruments of ratification? I think not. One cannot afford to be discouraged when the survival of mankind itself is at stake. We look forward to this Treaty coming into force this year, and we urge its early ratification by all governments that have not yet done so.

One of the most encouraging events in the field of arms control in recent days has been the coming into force of the treaty creating the Latin American Nuclear-Free Zone, and Canada wishes to express its congratulations to the Latin American countries responsible for this very positive step.

RESTORATION PROJECT IN OLD MONTREAL



Condition of Stables before the restoration work started.



Youville Stables today. Old World architecture accommodates modern enterprises.

To say that Youville Stables is a restoration project in the heart of Old Montreal is accurate, but an understatement. More than historic buildings are being restored.

Brought back to life is a business and social environment such as existed on the site 200 years ago. Other offices, shops and fine restaurants are facilities that will restore the old Pointe-à-Callières district to its former prominence in the everyday life of the city. The largest single undertaking of urban development in Old Montreal, Youville Stables is a complex started in June of confederation year 1967 to lead off the revival of a living and functional community on this historic location.

Work has been keyed to the dramatic plans for civic restoration of the whole surrounding district from Place d'Youville to the waterfront, from McGill Street to Place Royale.

BUILDINGS ALREADY IN USE

Three buildings of the Youville Stables project are already completely restored and prominent Montreal business and commercial firms are occupying much of the available space. Old World architecture and charm serve today to house modern Canadian professional and commercial enterprises. The quiet green courtyard enclosed by ancient stone walls gives a new-old dimension to the bustle of life in the downtown area.

Secretaries in miniskirts and busy executives come to work through wrought-iron gates in an ancient stone archway of one of the buildings. They look out from *oeil-de-boeuf* windows to see ancient gables and pitched roof-lines of Montreal's historic past. Steel and concrete towers of Montreal's new-world skyscrapers frame the scene.

In one wing of the complex a quality restaurant will serve not only tenants and neighbors, but tourists

and other visitors to the district. The court with its footpaths and trees allows for dining out of doors in fine weather.

Boutiques and shops of various types will meet the demands of both regular occupants of Youville Stables as well as the passing throng.

One hundred thousand square feet in a fourth, large building, still to be restored to its original beauty and design, will be converted into a modern luxury inn. Here, on the southern flank of the project, looking out across Common Street, the waterfront and the broad St. Lawrence with its Expo isles and Habitat, the most up-to-date of living will be provided in the heart of the city for both tourists and visiting business executives.

EARLY HISTORY

History in abundance is to be found here. The entrance archway to Youville Stables bears the street address 296 Place d'Youville. Early maps show this as the south bank of the Rivière St-Pierre or Little River. Cartier and Champlain came exploring on this spot. Maisonneuve with his band of original settlers here set up a crude altar of thanks when he founded the city in 1642. He spoke later of the rivulet, the open meadows and the forest where Youville Stables stands today.

The city grew, first on the north shore, then on the south of the Little River. Pointe-à-Callières it became known, after the governor who built his substantial stone home there. Docks, shipyards, foundries, warehouses of the fur trade, inns and taverns rooted themselves on the scene as they do along the shores of any great harbor. François Charon and his Hospitalier Brothers built their General Hospital of grey stone in 1693; Marie-Marguerite du Frost de la Jemmerais, veuve d'Youville took over administration

of the hospital in 1747. The Order of Grey Nuns had been founded in the structure in 1738.

The Grey Nuns ministered to the sick and poor of the infant city. Their work grew and so did their lands and establishment. Walls of their earliest buildings, including the sacristy, still stand today, exposed as urban renewal clears the rubble of less ancient buildings and sheds from the site.

It is on land once owned by the Grey Nuns, adjacent to their hospital, that Youville Stables now stands. Jean Bouthillier, a Montreal merchant, and his son Tancrede, leased the land from the Nuns and erected what is today the south wing of the restoration project. Later he built two additional, low, narrow buildings on the land. Fire destroyed part of these and the two remaining buildings were joined to form the classic "U" and courtyard as it stands today.

The buildings now in use were never perhaps a stable. But lean-to walls known to have existed along the wall of the courtyard served as the "parking space" for the four-footed transport of those days. The name "Stables" attached itself to the general area of this project.

The first federal parliament of the two Canadas stood at what is today the west end of Place d'Youville. It was burned by rioters in the troubles of April 1849, though its foundation stones still lie buried under the pavement of the Place.

The whole area is being designed not only to save the charm and grace of historic old buildings, but to create — and put to modern use — a distinctive enclosed community or *faubourg* for both business and tourist purposes, spanning the space between the financial district and the waterfront.

A history-oriented modern plaza is envisaged with graceful old buildings throughout this area restored to their beauty and, to the bustle of business people, shippers and tourists, a place where things happen. Traffic will stop at its borders; modern parking facilities will be located at the perimeter. Within the *faubourg* there will be a humming of shops, offices and inns, business and commerce, as there was hundreds of years ago.

This time the skyscrapers of a modern metropolis will look on.

(From a recent issue of *Urban Renewal and Low-Income Housing*, a publication of *Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation*.)

GUTHRIE THEATRICAL PRIZES

Thirteen associates of the Stratford Festival Company and staff have received Tyrone Guthrie Awards totalling \$7,650, which are designated to be used for further study in the theater and to cover personal expenses.

From 33 applications, the Guthrie Award Committee chose Beverly Adam, properties (\$1,000), Katerina Allan, assistant stage manager (\$1,500),

Douglas Anderson, actor (\$500), Guy Bannerman, actor (\$500), Robert Christie, actor (\$1,000), Ela Moll, painter (\$250) Jennifer Phipps, actress (\$400), Pamela Rogers, call-boy (\$500), Donald Rutherford, singer (\$500), Philip Spensley, director's assistant (\$500), and Margaret Zeidman, singer (\$500). Special unsolicited and open grants were awarded to Ruth Gooch, concessionaire (\$250), and Dennis Washburn, gardener (\$250).

Money for the awards is raised each year by a special performance from which the entire proceeds left after expenses have been deducted are contributed to the fund. This year a performance of *Hamlet* was given on July 18.

The fund has distributed almost \$90,000 since its establishment in 1954. It was set up by the acting company as a token of appreciation for the leadership of Sir Tyrone Guthrie, first artistic director of the Stratford Festival.

NUCLEAR REACTOR TO TAIWAN

Negotiations have been completed for the sale by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited of a nuclear research reactor to the Chinese Atomic Energy Council in Taiwan. The contract was signed in Taipei on September 15 by J.L. Gray, President of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, and Dr. Yen Chen Hsing, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Council in Taiwan.

This is the first commercial sale of a reactor since AECL assumed responsibility last year for marketing Canadian reactors abroad. The total cost of the project is approximately \$35 million. Canadian content will amount to some \$28 million.

As a condition of the agreement, the Republic of China has undertaken to accept the application of the safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure the reactor is used for peaceful purposes only.

The Taiwan research reactor will be an up-dated and improved version of the *NRX* reactor at AECL's Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories and the *Cirus* reactor built co-operatively by Canada and India near Bombay for the Indian Department of Atomic Energy. Completed in 1947, *NRX* for some years was the most powerful research reactor in the world and, with its associated facilities, is still giving valuable service. Based on the *NRX* design, the *Cirus* reactor has performed with similar success, both as a research tool and in the production of radio-isotopes.

The Taiwan reactor will be moderated with heavy water, fuelled with natural uranium and will have a heat output of 40 megawatts. The site chosen for it is at Huaitzupu, near the Institute of Nuclear Energy Research, in the northwest part of Taiwan.

While AECL is the prime contractor, most of the Canadian content will be provided by individual Canadian companies in the form of engineering services, equipment, fuel and project management.

PRESIDENT OF NIGER VISITS

At the invitation of the Governor General, President Diori Hamani of the Republic of Niger arrived in Ottawa on September 17 for a state visit to Canada. During his stay, which had to be curtailed by three days owing to "pressing business" in his own country, the President visited Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Manitoba. He returned to Niger on September 26. The President was accompanied by his wife, and his entourage included Messrs Mamoudou Maidah, Minister of Rural Economy, Zakara Mouddour, Minister of Saharan and Nomad Affairs, the Post Office and Telecommunications, Abdou Sidikou, Secretary of State to the President with responsibility for foreign affairs, Colonel Balarabe, Chief of Staff of Niger's armed forces, His Excellency Amadou Mayaki, Niger's Ambassador to Canada, and other dignitaries.

President Hamani was met at the airport by Governor-General Roland Michener, whose guest he was while in Ottawa. Discussions between the President and the Prime Minister and other members of the Canadian Government touched on major topics of current international significance. The President and the Prime Minister expressed the determination of their Governments to continue to contribute by all means within their power to the search for solutions to the problems of world peace. They gave particular emphasis to the importance of a sustained effort to reduce economic disparities at the international level. They also discussed recent developments in Nigeria, and agreed on the need to continue their efforts to get negotiations started.

COMMON LINGUISTIC TIES

These conversations also provided an opportunity for a fruitful exchange of views on *la Francophonie*. The President and the Prime Minister stressed the importance of a rapid expansion in co-operation between French-speaking countries to meet the strongly-felt needs of countries which, like Canada and Niger, had a common heritage of French linguistic and cultural traditions; the establishment of a functional

GIFT OF RARE PLANTS TO MUSEUM

Some rare and beautiful plant specimens from the tundra region of Ontario have been given to the National Museums of Canada. The gift is the latest of many made over the past 20 years by Northern Ontario naturalist Fred N. Cowell of Moosonee, Ontario.

The specimens, dried and mounted on 75 sheets, were collected near Cape Henrietta Maria, where James Bay joins Hudson Bay. This remarkable area of Arctic tundra is of particular interest since it is part of the 7,000 square miles recently set aside by the Ontario government for the new Polar Bear Provincial Park.

Besides its scientific value, the information

framework within which cultural and technical co-operation could quickly attain their full potential was cited as a means to this end.

NIAMEY CONFERENCE

In this connection, the President and the Prime Minister expressed satisfaction with the decisive steps taken by the French-speaking countries at the conference convened in Niamey last February by President Diori Hamani, in his capacity as chairman of the Organisation Commune Africaine et Malgache (OCAM). Niger and Canada reaffirmed their support for the proposed agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation between French-speaking Countries, which was approved unanimously at the Niamey conference. The President and the Prime Minister noted their agreement in principle on the role of the Agency and its relations with their respective countries.

They also dealt with questions of economic and social development, a subject in which both countries are interested. The Canadian program of aid to Niger began five years ago. The Prime Minister expressed once again his Government's desire to increase Canadian participation in the economic development of Niger, as evidenced by, among other things, the technical co-operation agreement and the three conventions for financing signed on September 18 in Ottawa by the President and the Prime Minister. These conventions concern (1) the enlarging of Mariama College in Niamey and the sending of professors to the college; (2) mining prospecting in Niger; and (3) plant protection, including construction of laboratories, furnishing of equipment, sending experts and granting scholarships.

The President and the Prime Minister agreed on other subjects of co-operation. In particular, the Canadian Government has undertaken to place advisers at Niger's disposal and to supply food and pharmaceutical products. Canada has also undertaken a technical study of the campaign against endemic diseases.

obtained by Mr. Cowell, in consultation with botanists from the Museums' National Herbarium, will aid in the plant management of this primitive park and its interpretation to future visitors.

One of the finest specimens in the collection — the *Oxytropis hudsonica* — is an interesting relative of the loco weeds. A handsome plant, it is found only in the Hudson Bay and Central Arctic regions.

Excellent specimens of the orchid family of the James Bay area are in the collection, as are nine species of the heath family. This family includes such important members as the blueberry and Labrador tea.

Primulas, gentians, asters, goldenrods and other members of the composite family are also included in the collection.

INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

(Continued from P. 2)

SEARCH FOR TEST BAN

Of all the arms-control issues that have tried the patience of the world in recent years, the most onerous has been the effort to conclude a comprehensive test ban to supplement the 1963 prohibition of nuclear tests in the atmosphere, under water and in outer space. The endless argument is continuing over whether "on-site" inspection is necessary in order to verify violations of an agreement to prohibit underground tests or whether national means of seismological detection are adequate for this purpose. At the last General Assembly, a resolution was adopted calling for the highest priority to be assigned to effective measures to limit the nuclear-arms race and to achieve nuclear disarmament. In the hope that a step forward could be made toward overcoming the verification problem, Canada proposed in the conference of the Committee on Disarmament at Geneva that an international system of seismic-data collection should be explored through enquiries to all member states seeking information about the facilities at their disposal and their willingness to make information freely available to all nations. This proposal will be pursued in this Assembly....

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

I turn now to that other menace to the survival of the human race — chemical and biological warfare. The Secretary-General's report has told us once again — if we needed to be told — the tragic consequences of using these dreadful weapons. At this Assembly we shall be considering proposals to eliminate them.

We recognize the valuable contribution represented by the draft treaty on biological warfare prepared by Britain and tabled in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. The Secretary-General's report, together with proposals advanced in Geneva and the draft convention put forward in this Assembly by the U.S.S.R., will all help to guide and facilitate our deliberations. The procedural resolution Canada sponsored, and which we hope will be included in the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, is directed to the same ends.

Let us remember, too, that the founders of the UN provided in the Charter procedures for the pacific settlement of disputes designed to stop the insane pattern of fighting and bloodshed which disfigures our

globe from time to time, and today particularly in Vietnam, the Middle East and Nigeria. It is a sad commentary on the state of the world community that it has no capacity to order the cessation of hostilities, except to the extent that the combatants are influenced by world public opinion. The current tense situation in the Middle East perhaps illustrates most graphically the nature of our dilemma. The Security Council unanimously adopted in November 1967 a resolution which imposed an equitable balance of obligation on all the parties to the dispute. Its full implementation could have restored peace to the Middle East. Yet today the conflict continues to race.

We can do more, I am convinced, to improve the machinery to head off disputes before they erupt into open warfare. This is why Canada is urging forward the peacekeeping studies being carried on in the Committee of 33. In a working group of that Committee, a concerted effort has been made during the past year to develop a "model" for the conduct of military observation missions authorized by the Security Council. As a participant in this study, we have been encouraged by what has been accomplished, but at the same time we are disappointed that the possibilities of much greater progress have not been realized. Once the model for an observation mission has been completed, the working group should go on to develop models for other kinds of peacekeeping operations. These are difficult problems, with political, legal, and financial implications. Perhaps, as a representative of a country with a certain experience in peacekeeping operations, I might offer a comment. It is essential that these problems should be given urgent consideration...to participate in the peacekeeping operations there, as well as in the UN peace observation missions in Palestine and Kashmir....

To keep the peace and to improve the conditions of life on earth — these are tasks that call for all that is best in us. They will be fulfilled if we can lift our eyes from the narrow concerns of transient political advantage and national self-interest to a broader horizon that encompasses the whole family of man. We are all bound up together. It is together that we must learn to live in peace, it is together that we must apply all our resources to the betterment of the human condition. The UN can be the supreme instrument for the achievement of these great tasks. It can also become no more than a monument to man's lost hopes and lost opportunities. It is the member nations that will determine what course this organization will follow and like you, Madame President, we have faith.