

Session in 1951. The majority of the Council members, including Canada, decided that two fundamentally different types of "rights" were involved, requiring different methods of implementation, and requested the General Assembly to reconsider its decision to include them in the same instrument. After long debate, the Assembly decided that the Commission on Human Rights should be asked to draft two covenants. The Canadian delegation supported this decision but, believing that much of the material suggested for inclusion in the second covenant amounted to statements of governmental responsibility or of long-term policy objectives, doubted whether these objectives, however desirable, should be written into a legally binding international convention. The Sixth Session of the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to hold a special session for the purpose of transmitting its directives to the Human Rights Commission so that the two draft covenants might be available for consideration at the Seventh Session.

Among the subjects that occupied the Economic and Social Council during this period were the world economic situation in general, various regional economic questions, full employment, freedom of information, forced labour and refugees.

**Specialized Agencies.**—An eleventh specialized agency of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, started functioning in 1951. At the same time, arrangements were made to terminate the International Refugee Organization early in 1952. Continuing problems in connection with refugees will be the concern of the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which was established by the General Assembly in December 1950. The proposed International Trade Organization and the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization have not yet come into existence.

### Subsection 3.—Canada and the North Atlantic Treaty

Within less than two years of the signing at San Francisco of the Charter of the United Nations in 1945, the hopes of people everywhere for universal peace had given place to growing anxiety. The Security Council, which had been given primary responsibility for the maintenance of security, was already ham-strung by the deliberate tactics of the Soviet representatives. The encouragement of communist régimes in countries under control of the Red Army, and activities in other countries, particularly in Western Europe, provided ample evidence of the imperialistic designs of the Soviet Union. Under these circumstances nations that found themselves in common danger of aggression were driven to seek security by special co-operation in defensive measures.

A major step in the search for security by Western nations was taken in the spring of 1948 when the United Kingdom, France, The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg signed at Brussels a treaty providing for their collective self-defence. In the months that followed there were many signs that determined efforts by Western European nations to co-operate for defence would find a ready response in North America. Beginning with the summer of 1948, the Ambassadors of the Brussels Treaty Powers and Canada began holding informatory and exploratory talks at Washington with representatives of the United States. Representatives of other North Atlantic countries were invited to the discussions at a later stage and, on Apr. 4, 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty was signed by twelve nations—Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, The Netherlands, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway,