

Race Conflict in South Africa.—Upon the initiative of a group of Arab and Asian States, "the question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of the Union of South Africa" was placed on the agenda of the seventh session of the General Assembly. Though the representative of South Africa argued that the United Nations was not competent to examine the question, which he claimed was a matter of domestic jurisdiction solely, the Assembly proceeded to discuss it and adopted a resolution setting up a three-man commission to study the racial situation in the Union of South Africa and report thereon to the eighth session. Another resolution called upon all member states to bring their policies into conformity with their obligations under the Charter to promote the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Secretariat Problems.—During the first part of the seventh session of the General Assembly in the autumn of 1952, personnel policy in the United Nations Secretariat became a matter of major public interest and discussion. The Secretary-General had announced on Oct. 20, 1952, the appointment of a Commission of Jurists to advise him on some issues arising out of hearings of the United States Senate Sub-Committee on Internal Security. It was asked to advise on certain issues of law and policy regarding the conduct required of international civil servants and the position of the United Nations with respect to official inquiries by member governments. There was no time to debate this matter at the first part of the session but, at the request of the Secretary-General, an item was placed on the agenda of the resumed session. After a debate in which representatives of member states, including Canada, emphasized the necessity of reconciling the rights and freedoms of United Nations employees and the security of the State in which they serve, the Assembly on Apr. 1, 1953, adopted a resolution citing Articles 100 and 101 of the Charter, expressing confidence that the Secretary-General would conduct personnel policy with these Articles in mind, and requesting him to make a progress report to the next session.

Appointment of a New Secretary-General.—The original term of office of the first Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, expired on Feb. 1, 1951. At the fifth session in 1950, the Security Council was unable to make a nomination and the Assembly, accordingly, extended Mr. Lie's term for a further three years (until Feb. 1, 1954). On Nov. 10, 1952, Mr. Lie announced his wish to resign, provided a successor could be found, giving as his reason a hope that a new Secretary-General who was the unanimous choice of the five great powers, the Security Council and the General Assembly might be more helpful than he could be. At a number of meetings during February and March, 1953, the Security Council considered and rejected four candidates. Of these, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, the Hon. L. B. Pearson, received nine favourable votes but was not nominated owing to the negative vote of a permanent member, the Soviet Union. On Mar. 31, 1953, however, the concurring votes of all five permanent members made possible the nomination of Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld of Sweden. On Apr. 7, 1953, he was elected by the General Assembly by a vote of fifty-seven in favour, one against and one abstention, and took up office on Apr. 10.

The Economic and Social Council.—During 1952, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions were engaged chiefly in further work on projects already initiated. The question of helping the economically underdeveloped countries of the world to help themselves continued to engage a large share of attention. The General Assembly confirmed the Council's proposal