

In conclusion Mr Fraser said :—

“ We, the free nations, combined in the war. We were threatened with a terrible soul-destroying tyranny and we, the big and little nations, the freedom-loving nations, got together and overthrew the tyrants. Here is another war, a war to save men, women and children. We should have the same organization, the same enthusiasm, and contribute in the same way to these new munitions of war, which means counteracting the threatened famine in many parts of the world. I believe I am speaking for every delegate and for every nation represented when I say we will be defeated unless we defeat this threat of starvation, that our United Nations will not be truly united unless we distribute this food to the world, solve the problems, estimate what food there is, and endeavour to go as far in the distribution of food as possible, organizing the transport, and doing all the other necessary things. For would not it be a tragedy if there were food piled up in many parts of the world and it could not reach starving people elsewhere ? It is a big problem ; it is a problem worthy of the United Nations. Let us see that we rise to the occasion and strike a great blow for God and man.”

The Assembly considered the impending world famine on another occasion, when it adopted a resolution on wheat and rice presented jointly by the delegations of China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States (see page 49).

Resolution on UNRRA

RESOLVED THAT :

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, impressed with the imperative urgency that action to facilitate the final stages of the work of UNRRA be taken at the earliest possible date in view of the understanding of the Council of UNRRA that the work of that organization will be completed in Europe by 31 December, 1946, and in the Far East by March, 1947—

1. Establish a committee—

(a) To consult with States signatory to the UNRRA Agreement who have not made or arranged to make the further contributions to UNRRA recommended in Council Resolution No. 80 of August, 1945, and to urge upon them that they make such contributions with the least possible delay ; and

(b) To urge upon members of the United Nations who are not signatories to the UNRRA Agreement to join that organization and thereby to make their contributions to this great humanitarian task.

2. Appoint as members of this committee the representatives of the following countries : Canada, China, Dominican Republic, France, Greece, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, United States, and instruct the committee to begin its work as soon as possible.

3. Instruct the Secretary-General to seek to make arrangements with the Director-General of UNRRA whereby the General Assembly may be furnished with full reports on the work of UNRRA and on the progress made towards economic rehabilitation in the countries being assisted by UNRRA.