

IX. THIRD COMMITTEE: SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN, AND CULTURAL QUESTIONS

Officers

Chairman Rt Hon. P. FRASER (*New Zealand*)

Vice-Chairman Mr SOTO HARRISON (*Costa Rica*)

Rapporteur Miss FRIEDA DALEN (*Norway*).

New Zealand Representatives

Rt Hon. P. FRASER

Miss J. R. MCKENZIE

Mr R. MILLER

Miss L. MCPHEE

THE Third Committee had within its scope of discussion and recommendation the social, humanitarian, and cultural aspects of the work of the Economic and Social Council. It was required to consider means of promoting international co-operation in the fields of culture, health, education, and social progress, and of giving effect to the Charter provisions in regard to human rights and fundamental freedoms.

At the first meeting of the Committee, the nomination of the Rt Hon. Peter Fraser as chairman was put forward by the Canadian representative, Mr. S. H. Knowles, M.P., and seconded by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt for the United States. It was supported also by Lt-Col W. R. Hodgson (Australia), M. Jan Stanczyk (Poland), Mr. A. Henderson, M.P. (United Kingdom), Mr. L. Egeland (South Africa), M. L. Jouhaux (France), Don Baron Castro (El Salvador) Miss M. Bernadino (Dominican Republic), and Sayid A. M. Abbass (Iraq). There were no other nominations and Mr. Fraser was elected unanimously by acclamation.

Giving unanimous approval to those sections of the report of the Preparatory Commission which were its concern, the Committee sent on to the General Assembly recommendations, which were subsequently adopted, for the establishment at the first session of the Economic and Social Council of a Commission on Human Rights, a Temporary Social Commission, and a Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and another concerning the desirability of establishing at an early date a Demographic Commission.

Two meetings were held, also under the chairmanship of Mr. Fraser, of a joint sub-committee of the Second and Third Committees, which discussed and approved those portions of the report of the Preparatory Commission concerning the date of the first meeting of the Economic and Social Council, the adoption of the provisional agenda and the provisional rules of procedure, the terms of reference and composition of the Commissions of the Council, and the means of bringing specialized agencies into relationship with the Council.