

proper evaluation of its effect, one should not ignore the fallacy of what is apparently an unshakeable belief in many quarters that when you have passed a resolution you have done something. While this resolution (correctly described as an "enabling Act"—it is nothing more) undoubtedly marks a real step forward—if a small one—the test of its usefulness to the world will lie entirely in its practical application in the future, and in the actual steps which it is found possible to take to bring about that reduction of armaments which would so materially reduce international tension, and so substantially divert into useful channels that large proportion of human resources which is now directed towards means of destruction. It is clear that disarmament in any complete sense is an illusion unless and until collective security becomes a reality.

I owe a very deep debt of gratitude to my co-delegates, the Hon. David Wilson, Mr J. V. Wilson, and Mrs A. F. R. McIntosh (and, indeed to all members of the New Zealand delegation), on whom a very heavy burden was thrown as a result of circumstances which were not foreseen. My election to the chairmanship of the Third Committee—a post held in London by you, Sir—was a compliment to our country which could not possibly have been declined, but which, in view of the very heavy work involved in that Committee (with the agenda allocated to a joint Second and Third Committee, the Committee's labours extended over some sixty meetings, occupying on an average more than three hours each), and in the General Committee, membership of which was, of course, a corollary, did, in fact, monopolize a very large proportion of my own time. In addition, I felt it necessary to be present at the appropriate sub-committee during the unexpectedly long examination of our draft Trusteeship Agreement for Western Samoa, which occupied a further ten meetings. As a result, I found myself very largely immobilized from other work, of which the burden, and to a considerable extent the responsibility, fell upon, and was willingly and capably accepted by, my co-delegates.

The Hon. David Wilson, with the able assistance of Mr T. O. W. Brebner, Consul-General at New York, carried the main responsibility on all economic and social matters, and to Mr J. V. Wilson fell the heavy burden of the First Committee, which dealt with all the most difficult and important political and security problems. Mrs McIntosh was of the utmost assistance on many committees, and she not only played a useful part on all social and humanitarian questions, particularly those relating to women and children, but earned for herself the respect and affection of the whole Assembly as a most worthy representative of New Zealand womanhood.

I should also like to pay a warm tribute to Messrs McKay and Laking, each of whom most successfully carried a heavy load in the protracted discussions on trusteeship. In this matter, as the proponents of the first trusteeship agreement to be considered, New Zealand had, in fact, to make the case for all the trusteeship agreements and for all