

rejection of his resolution left the Committee with only one substantial alternative—to refer the question to the International Court. Such a procedure threw doubt upon the right of the United Nations to prosecute a claim for reparations and accordingly Egypt would refuse to recognize any claim submitted by the Secretary-General until the verdict of the International Court had been made known.

Attention was then directed to the *Belgian* resolution. Since several delegations had submitted amendments or additional proposals, it was agreed to establish a working group of the delegates concerned to attempt to combine all the proposals in a single resolution.

The operative part of the draft produced by the working group, read :—

“The General Assembly,

“Decides to request the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion on the following legal questions :

“I. ‘In the event of an agent of the United Nations in the performance of his duties suffering injury in circumstances involving the responsibility of a State, has the United Nations, as an Organization, the capacity to bring an international claim against the responsible *de jure* or *de facto* Government with a view to obtaining the reparation due in respect of the damage caused (a) to the United Nations, (b) to the victim or to persons entitled through him’ ?

“II. ‘In the event of an affirmative reply to point I (b) how is action by the United Nations to be reconciled with such rights as may be possessed by the State of which the victim is a national’ ?

“Instructs the Secretary-General, after the Court has given its opinion to prepare proposals, in the light of that opinion and to submit them to the General Assembly at its next regular session.”

This resolution was adopted in the Committee by 34 votes (N.Z.) to 5 with 1 abstention and unanimously in the Assembly.

Permanent Missions to the United Nations

The representative of *Bolivia* explained that, though the practice of establishing permanent missions to the United Nations had become increasingly general, these missions lacked a proper legal basis. One special result had been that when countries not represented in the main councils of the United Nations wished to participate in the work of those bodies, their representatives were obliged to go through complicated procedures in order to have the necessary credentials accepted. Sometimes, moreover (especially in the case of distant countries), credentials arrived too late. He suggested that a practical solution would be for Governments to appoint permanent representatives and to enumerate on their credentials the organs of the United Nations for which those credentials should be valid. He submitted a resolution