

The Assembly approved the continuance for another year of the 1948 scale of contributions by which the largest contributor, the United States, pays 39.89 per cent. of the total. It resolved, however, that "in normal times" no State should contribute more than one-third of the budget for any one year. The New Zealand representative, considering that the essential criterion should be ability to pay, abstained from voting on this resolution.

(b) *Secretariat*

The Assembly approved—

- (a) A permanent staff pensions scheme.
- (b) A staff contributions scheme, designed to facilitate an adjustment of the present situation whereby some members of the staff are exempted by their Government from the obligation to pay taxes and some are not.
- (c) The progress made by the Secretary-General in ensuring that staff are drawn as equitably as possible from all member countries.

In addition, the Assembly asked for a review of salary scales and the system of expatriation allowances.

(c) *Postal and Telecommunications Services*

The Assembly approved in principle the establishment of a postal service and a telecommunications system of the United Nations.

(d) *Working Languages of the General Assembly*

Although both the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions reported adversely on a proposal to add Spanish to the existing working languages of the Assembly (English and French), a resolution to that effect was adopted. New Zealand was among the minority which considered that the attendant expenditure and administrative inconvenience were unjustified.

(e) *Training in Public Administration*

The Assembly approved a proposal that an International Centre for Training in Public Administration be set up under the direction of the United Nations.

(f) *Budgetary Co-ordination of the Specialized Agencies*

Under the direction of the General Assembly the Economic and Social Council is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the specialized agencies with that of the United Nations. For reasons of economy and efficiency alike, the New Zealand Government have always advocated the institution of all practicable measures of