

ATOMIC ENERGY

Control Fear, Not Fission

Attitudes of people, not control of fissionable materials, are the real problem, atomic energy meeting is told. UNO must stop world's rush for uranium.

► IF IT HAS not become apparent as a result of the sessions of the UNO atomic energy commission in New York, the nonofficial and more outspoken atomic energy meeting in Washington has made this clear:

The real problem is not the control of the fission of the plutonium atom, but the control of the attitudes, feelings and emotions of peoples of various nations.

Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace put it this way:

"The immediate purpose of any plan for control of atomic energy is to put an end to the possibility of a state of international hysteria and fear in which other negotiations will become so difficult as to be impossible."

The immediate purpose in Secretary Wallace's view is not to solve the whole problem of war but to avoid the possibility of a surprise war which could kill millions of persons in a night.

Those who continue to prepare for total war in an atomic world in the belief that this is the best security for peace were told by Dr. Norman H. Dawes of Carnegie Institute of Technology that all those who have so believed and acted have shortly found themselves in armed conflict.

"There is an alarming loss of faith for democratic living," he warned the Institute on World Control of Atomic Energy, "and the resultant mental and spiritual climate is not at all assuring to men of good will."

Hungry, desperate, undernourished human beings will fail to comprehend the issues at stake or take those measures for the control of atomic power in which alone there is world security, Dr. Dawes declared.

The power of the nucleus must be used, Dr. Philip Morrison, atomic physicist of Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Cornell University, declared, "to change not only the forces with which we deal but the relations among men themselves."

Secretary Wallace told the institute that "the people cry for new and revolutionary measures to control new and revolutionary dangers," and that "there has been criticism of statesmen and dip-

lomats for being too slow in buckling down to real work on these problems."

There is no doubt, Secretary Wallace continued, that there will be eventual revolutions in our industrial life. But he urged that we must not take a whole generation to realize and act upon the implications of this new age. Because, as he put it, "we simply cannot afford to waste that much time."

A world search for uranium is being carried out on a scale surpassing that of the gold rush of '49.

An international rush for the raw material for atomic bombs and atomic energy is underway even though it is hidden from view, W. A. Higinbotham, chairman of the Federation of American Scientists, told the atomic energy institute.

The UNO atomic energy commission must stop this atomic arms race before it can go about solving other major problems, Mr. Higinbotham warned.

If political and technical controls against the nations of the world making bombs is not achieved, we must to a

large extent give up our cities, he declared.

The official U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey issued by the White House and buried under OPA and Bikini news, Mr. Higinbotham said, pictured the nation "running for cover and burrowing like moles so fantastically as to seem almost unbelievable."

Already, Mr. Higinbotham said, nervous people are going to fortune tellers to ask where they will be safe, economic advisers are recommending rural property as safe investments, and bills in Congress to replace the government if destroyed overnight receive serious consideration.

Expressing confidence that people all over the world will support the U. S. proposals for international control if they get the facts, Mr. Higinbotham also said that the attitude of humanity toward war should change because of the atomic bomb menace.

The House Talks on Control

► THE McMAHON bill for the control of atomic energy (Sen. 1717) was the principal subject of debate in the House of Representatives last week. Opponents of the bill attempted (1) to kill it outright, (2) to delay matters indefinitely, leaving atomic energy control in the hands of the Army, and (3) to have the bill returned to (*Turn to Page 53*)



NEW RECORD—This AAF R-5 Sikorsky helicopter is holder of the new world's record for long distance flight set at Air Materiel Command, Wright Field, Ohio. It was flown from Wright Field to Boston.