re-examination. Regrettably the large-scale projects have not moved off the drawing-board."

Although the annual reports of the Director of the Agency had recorded no change in the strong desire of the refugees for repatriation the current report stated that they were becoming increasingly aware of the desirability of self-support and rehabilitation. Mr. Harrison recalled that the previous year Israel had come out against repatriation as a solution to the refugee problem. [Mr. Harrison's statement was made before the Israel offer of compensation was announced to the same Committee.] While UNRWA had managed to furnish necessary relief to the refugees it had not been successful in integrating them into the economy of the area. Moreover, the number of self-help projects had not counterbalanced the natural growth of the refugee population.

"Clearly something must be done. Over the past ten years, the world has given some $300,000,000 to help the refugees, the United States having contributed two-thirds of this amount. The world generally, including the contributors, have a legitimate interest in a solution. Although we cannot hope to solve the refugee problem at this General Assembly, we can take steps which will assist us in deciding the direction we should follow toward a solution. The Director has drawn our attention to the need for a decision on the future handling of the refugee problem in view of the fact that UNRWA's mandate is due to expire on June 30, 1960.

"The Director has pointed out that there will undoubtedly be a continuing need after 1960 for the services UNRWA now renders to the refugees. UNRWA, he has noted, is only one of several means of doing this. If there is any change in arrangements, he accurately points out, the decision must be made not later than 1959, so that the necessary arrangements can be made without a break in the flow of services and supplies. At the same time, the decision on future arrangements must be preceded by a careful study of all the factors involved. He has concluded that the Assembly should this year lay the groundwork for such a decision.

"The United States agrees with the view of the Director in this regard. Over the past two years the United States has urged that advance planning be undertaken looking toward the expiration of UNRWA's mandate in 1960. This year the need to begin such planning is all the more urgent.

"As long as the Agency is in existence, some may have felt it best to let matters ride as in the past. UNRWA has organized a very efficient relief program and has been able to carry out limited rehabilitation functions. Some may feel the best course is to continue the present arrangements beyond 1960 until a political settlement solves the refugee problem."

Mr. Harrison then quoted from the statement made by the U.S. representative last year before the Committee emphasizing that the 'primary responsibility for working out a solution rests with Israel and the Arab states,' but adding that a 'humanitarian responsibility towards the refugees' must be shared by all