

## *Oil for the Lamps Of United Nations*

By Andrew P. Christianson

The United Nations Organization has had some rough sailing on the troubled sea of diplomacy which the oil of Iran seems to agitate rather than smooth. The optimists, who have built great hopes on a world organization, whistle in the darkness, and the theme of their song is "Iran is not the real problem, the great task is the building of a machine."

What is the purpose of this machine or organization? Is it not to solve just such problems as the Iran controversy? Do the apologists for U.N. failure imply that a great military force must first be built to implement the will of the majority?

There were originally thirteen sovereign states which later formed the United States. Each state surrendered the right to its own army and navy. The United States had full power over the military organization. As time went on new states joined, and as economic problems arose so did factions within the United States, reaching their climax in the Civil War. The military might of the central government, instead of preventing the conflict, intensified the struggle by dividing its strength between the north and south.

If, instead of handing up power, the two factions had applied the principles of our Declaration of Independence and the preamble to the Constitution to their problems, the war might have been avoided. If the north had allowed free trade so that the south could have bought wherever she could secure the best for the least, instead of forcing her to buy "Yankee," the south probably would have been more favorably inclined toward the freeing of the slaves. Instead of tackling the fundamental problem of equality and freedom, both sides sought recruits among the new states in order to build up greater power.

If the U.N.O. does not tackle the Iran and other questions and settle them justly, the international military organization will be of little use. Its defenders speak of the international armed force as a police force, but history shows that a police force without the backing of a great majority is useless.

It will be said that the United States did survive the Civil War and has grown great; but the disintegrating force of economic problems is still with us. One indication of this is furnished by the trade restrictions and barriers arising between the states. Unemployed men feeling that their fellow men are superfluous and undesirable, take the initial steps toward armed conflict, by advocating trade barriers and discrimination.

Unless the U.N. can solve the land problem in Iran, Greece, India, the West Indies and Philippines; their labor will have been in vain. Armed might is a result of, not a cure for, inequality and injustice.

If any member nations could solve their own domestic problems, they would, by example, accomplish more for the peace of the world than can ever be accomplished by the U.N.O.—for it is stated: A little leaven leaveneth the whole loaf.