

problems can be dealt with only in a world-wide forum other aspects of trade can be examined usefully by countries whose trading systems - and hence trading problems - are most alike. For example at the recent Commonwealth meeting Canada proposed an early conference of a group of countries to discuss their common trading problems. Such a conference would in fact help to prepare the way for wider, non-discriminatory tariff negotiations on a most-favoured-nation basis.

#### COMMONWEALTH AND EMERGING NATIONS

I should like to say a few words now about the Commonwealth and emerging nations. In London we welcomed four countries that have joined this family of free and independent nations within the last year - Sierra Leone, Tanganyika, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. This brought the number of nations participating fully in the Commonwealth Conference to a total of 15. All but four have become independent since the Second World War and in each case they have chosen of their own free will to become members of the Commonwealth. In addition, there were representatives present from other territories such as Uganda, Kenya and British Guiana which will shortly obtain independence and will in all probability choose to join the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth of today is an inspiring example of friendly association of nations of diverse races, cultures, creeds and political institutions. Its members may be divided in their approach to some questions, but they are solidly united in their dedication to the cause of peace and to the promotion of better understanding.

Mr. President, great credit for this outstanding achievement in international co-operation and for the successful launching of these new nations must be given to the United Kingdom. All of these countries of the Commonwealth - including Canada - were at one time colonies, and in their progress to nationhood the United Kingdom has given generously and wisely of its aid and guidance.