

moreover, of the responsibility which rests on the highly developed countries to give assistance to the new nations striving for economic and social betterment.

As one of the industrialized countries, Canada has accepted its share of that responsibility. Our action in this regard is motivated quite simply by a desire to help the less-developed states to achieve that degree of independence which can be a political reality only if it rests solidly on economic stability.

What is the record?

Among the Western nations there has been tremendous progress among their colonies towards freedom and independence, while on the Soviet side there has been progressive annexation of helpless states and people. A comparison of the Western and Communist countries reveals two cavalcades of political change since the end of World War I moving in opposite directions, - the one among the Western nations towards the light of freedom, the other into the darkness of subjugation.

What Soviet Charges Ignore

The Soviet Union at the UN contends that 88 territories under the sovereignty of other nations, having a total population of 71,100,000, will still be under colonial rule on January 1, 1962. But it says nothing about the progress that has been made in recent years. The Soviets do not mention the 850 million people in some 37 countries which have achieved political independence since 1945 from non-Communist countries. The Soviets are significantly silent about the 96 million non-Russian people living under Soviet rule who have never been given an opportunity to decide whether they wished to remain part of the Soviet empire.

The Soviets present a lurid picture of bloodshed and violence in non-Communist colonial areas, but they take no account of the peaceful development within the Commonwealth, under the leadership of the United Kingdom, which has made freedom and independence a living reality for 586 million people in India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Malaya, Ghana, Nigeria, Cyprus, Sierra Leone and Tanganyika. The Soviet version ignores completely the political freedom, the administrative experience and the material resources which the Commonwealth countries of Asia and Africa have derived from their association in the Commonwealth.

In 1939 more than one-third of all mankind lived in dependent status under the colonial rule of Western European countries. Today fewer than two percent remain in that status. In the United Nations, no less than one-third of the members are states which have attained their independence since 1945. This is an impressive story of achievement and it is continuing.