

I should add, since I have been speaking primarily about Canadian teachers going to Africa, that there are other points of particular interest to French-language teachers and to others here. Some of you are going to Southeast Asia, and it should be noted that the Colombo Plan covers assistance to French-language nations in that area too. We have tried, within the framework of the Commonwealth scholarship scheme, to interest as many overseas students as possible in the facilities for study in French available in Canada.

I am glad to note that, of the 1,800 students and trainees who came to Canada in 1964 under various parts of our aid programme, 500 were located in the Province of Quebec, the great majority of whom were studying in French. It is the policy of the Government to ensure that the bicultural nature of our country is reflected in all parts of our external policy and that the educational and cultural resources of our country are all used in the development of the most effective aid programme possible....

#### AID PROGRAMMES DEVELOP

There have been great changes taking place generally in aid programmes in recent years. These changes have been apparent in terms of financial allocations, geographical scope, the nature of the assistance and the involvement of individuals and agencies. In the past two years, funds voted for assistance generally have doubled in volume. In 1960, 83 Canadian teachers and advisers went abroad, in 1964 the figure was 545, and this year the figure will probably reach 650.

An increased emphasis on technical and educational assistance, the implementation of new loan and food-aid programmes, the extension of aid to African states a few years ago and the introduction in the past year of loans for Latin American countries have all added new dimensions to the earlier programme. The scope of current Canadian programmes and the efficiency of their execution have been commented on favourably by international agencies particularly concerned.

The motives and objectives of this policy of economic co-operation with developing countries are clear. We feel an obligation to assist the developing countries to deal with acute economic and social problems. We believe that more stable and peaceful international conditions will result from accelerated economic development. We believe that, in the long run, Canada, too, can benefit economically from the solution of these problems elsewhere.

#### GROWING VALUE OF CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION

In carrying out a programme on such a broad front, we must ask ourselves where and how we can make our contribution most effectively. As more nations became independent, as new requests were made to us, as fresh opportunities for effective action became apparent and as more Canadians became convinced of the need to act abroad, the scope of Canadian activities, whether governmental or private, expanded. I believe that our programmes are well balanced and that, considering all factors of need, history or size on the side of the recipient country and of capacity for effective action on the side of the donor country,

Canada, we are making an international contribution of steadily increasing value on a broad front. You who are about to leave for assignments in French-speaking Africa and Asia, your English-speaking colleagues who were at Macdonald College last week and all Canadians who are taking part in this great enterprise can feel a real satisfaction in what is being done.

I referred to our motives and objectives in entering into these co-operative ventures and stressed that the basic motive was the desire to help those most in need of economic development. Since this is the case, we do not impose conditions on our aid, except the obvious one that it should really contribute to a permanent and significant improvement in economic conditions. We certainly do not lay down political conditions about internal affairs or the external policies of the country concerned.

#### RELATIONS WITH AFRICA

There are, however, close connections between economic and political relations. Our interest in newly-independent African nations, their role in the United Nations and in the search for racial equality and peace, lead us in Canada to increasing contacts, which, in their turn, raise questions of economic assistance. In carrying out aid projects, we develop fresh interests and expand our relations in all fields. For this reason, in reviewing the subjects of most immediate interest to you in your assignment, I should like to say something about relations with Africa.

The importance of Africa in the contemporary world is clear. Thirty-two nations have achieved independence there since 1945, and their governments are playing a role of increasing significance both in the United Nations and in regional agencies such as the Organization of African Unity. Their desire to assert their own identity, coupled frequently with a desire to maintain a heritage of links with the older nations of the West, not least through the use of the French and English languages, is impressive.

It is in the interest of all of us that African independence be aided and strengthened and that African nations be able to determine their own course, in accordance with their traditions and interests and to choose their associates freely. The energy and determination of African leaders in seeking better conditions and the cheerful courage, strength and ability of the African people all arouse the respect, interest and sympathy of Canadians.

We have considered it particularly important, therefore, to develop diplomatic relations with states in Africa. At present we have seven diplomatic posts and one trade commissioner's office in Africa, and we maintain relations with a number of other states through dual accreditations. It is, of course, very important that we should have our representatives stationed in Africa, both for the general political purposes indicated and to ensure the proper functioning of our aid programmes.

#### EMBASSY IN DAKAR

For these reasons it gives me particular pleasure to announce...that we have decided to open now a new embassy in Dakar, the capital of Senegal, where a

(Continued on P. 4)