

Next year will see Nigeria take her place in our family of nations, and Canada will shortly be opening a diplomatic post in the capital, Lagos. Shortly thereafter our island neighbours in the Caribbean -- the West Indies Federation -- will be joining the club, and it has been one of Canada's policies to extend substantial aid and assistance to this potential full Commonwealth member.

The fact that these new nations are voluntarily joining the Commonwealth, graphically illustrates the kind of multi-racial community which is developing, bound together by common ideals and institutions, and exercising a profound influence for good throughout the world. I believe the Commonwealth offers a lesson for the world in that it points the way towards the only tolerable solution of the basic dilemma of our time -- the problem of achieving order with freedom.

There are lessons, too, for others in the way in which there is mutual assistance within the Commonwealth for improving the lot of the less-developed members. The greater part of Canadian assistance has been carried out under the Colombo Plan, to which we have this year raised our contribution to \$50 million. The full title of this Plan is "The Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia", and the word "co-operative" has been consistently stressed in the ten years of the Plan's operation. Working together there has been established a very fine relationship among the member countries of the Plan and the Plan lives up to its title.

Canada has found a large number of projects where Canadians and Asians have worked harmoniously together, have learned from each other and together have made an effective contribution to the development of a particular country. Canadian experts sent out to Asia and the Asian student trainees who have come to Canada in a two-way stream of traffic have enriched and broadened our understanding of one another.

3. Then to my Third Picture

Nearer home, we have a third source of international strength in our unique relationship with our large and great neighbour to the south, the United States. I say unique because here again we tend to take for granted the deep understanding and friendship which permeates the daily relations of our two countries. We have, of course, much in common through having developed, albeit in our separate ways, from common origins in a shared physical environment. But it is more than a common history and more than the mere fact that destiny has decreed that we share a continent that renders the Canadian-American relationship unique. I venture