

*Food Aid*

In the case of grains, of course, Canada meets this challenge by looking to the future and assisting various nations in local cereal production programs with the supply of potash and know-how.

Looking, first of all, at the supply of potash by Canada, we know that we have around half of the world's reserves of potash. Therefore Canada is in the fortunate position of being an international supplier of first rank. Canada makes potash available either on the basis of a grant to the poorest country, such as Bangladesh, or through the concession of loans, as in the case of India. In addition to potash, Canada makes small amounts of other fertilizers available. They are small in quantity but crucial in the component required for agricultural development.

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India is the largest of the food deficit countries, and it receives a substantial share of our fertilizer assistance. As we all know, Canada has an agency which specializes in foreign assistance of this kind, the Canadian International Development Agency or L'Agence Canadienne de Développement International. As a nation we can take some credit for the enormous increases in cereal production India has been able to achieve in recent years. Last year India succeeded in producing an excess over consumption in cereals and is now in a position to stockpile. The contribution of Canadian potash to that success is recognized by India and its leaders.

In countries such as St. Vincent, CIDA has supplied fertilizers which have been sold to local producers, and the proceeds have been used to finance an agricultural credit project to permit still further agricultural improvement by the farmers and so to increase their productivity and their annual incomes.

Let us look for a moment at the other side of our efforts, namely, the provision of know-how to developing countries in need of assistance with regard to food. Here again, Canada can point with pride to a number of successes. For example, Tanzania asked for Canadian assistance in increasing wheat production some ten years ago, and there has been a team of Canadians working on this project ever since. Canadians have been simultaneously developing the technology required for an experimental station and assisting with its application on large wheat farms. With carefully selected varieties resistant to local rusts, with adequate weed control and moisture conservation in the dry season and with careful timing of seeding in relation to available moisture, the team has been successful in changing from a crop failure situation in the early years to bountiful harvests in the past two. Last year, 1977, the new farms using Canadian dry farming techniques and equipment supplied by Canada, with the assistance of a number of Canadian farmers, produced \$2 million worth of additional wheat in Tanzania on land previously used simply for grazing.

By such efforts in Tanzania and fitting Canadian know-how to new situations we hope to be able to reduce slowly food aid shipments to Tanzania as local production makes them unnecessary, so that when the world's cereal shortage which is foreseen after 1985 occurs, Tanzania will be at least partially

[Mr. Caccia.]

protected by a vigorous local wheat production program. President Nyerere of Tanzania was so impressed with the achievements of the wheat team last year that he presented each of the farm staff with a bonus of 1,000 shillings. The Canadian advisers contributed theirs to the purchase of recreational equipment for the children on that 10,000 acre state farm.

Let us take, for example, sugar-cane, a crop regarding which we have little know-how. However, a Canadian invention to separate the rind from the inner pith, which contains most of the sugar, led us to finance studies in the Caribbean in which Canadians determined that sugar-cane could be the base for cattle feed. The result is that in Barbados a dairy herd has been fed sugar-cane, urea and rapeseed meal for more than three years, and milk production has actually increased over what it was when the cattle were fed grass.

Under the auspices of CIDA a demonstration of a feedlot for commercial beef production is under way in Trinidad, again using Canadian know-how to introduce a new industry, the beef feedlot, to the Caribbean. With this new use for sugar-cane a new industry which takes advantage of the tremendous tonnage of sugar-cane which can be produced in tropical climates is foreseen. This development, which is peculiarly Canadian, is being watched with interest in other parts of the world. It is now being applied in central America and in Mexico, and CIDA hopes it will find application in many other countries where sugar-cane can be grown. Fortunately, rapeseed meal has been found to be a very satisfactory part of the sugar-cane based ration and makes still another Canadian input for additional food production in developing countries.

In India, most of the success of the so-called green revolution, about which we have read and which is based upon new dwarf wheat and rice varieties, was located in irrigated areas or where rainfall was plentiful. India was concerned that there were not similar technologies and benefits available to the farmers who had no irrigation in the semi-arid and dry areas of that country. So India asked CIDA for assistance, and Canada had a team there which was knowledgeable about western Canadian dry farming techniques. That was helpful in the production of sorghum, millet, beans and other Indian crops. The dry farming techniques are very successful and can double production at the experimental station.

The present CIDA team in India is now working with Indian agronomists on how to adapt the new techniques, which require good weed control for moisture conservation and seeds placed in the soil at precise depths. Neither of these is easy to achieve with the primitive ox-drawn implements which are used in these dry areas. New equipment which suits India's needs and economic conditions needs to be developed in future years, and hopefully Canada will participate in that as well.

We have heard today about Canadian inputs, about fertilizers and about Canadian know-how. However, we realize that the problem of fitting Canadian know-how into developing countries' situations is not easily solved.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier):** Order, please.