

"The Green Revolution did help. But there is a huge investment that the developing countries . . . have been reluctant to make . . . in their own agriculture. . . . Steel mills are more exciting (and) agriculture does not symbolize . . . a developed country." THE IDRC REPORTS

Food for the Hungry Future

There are one hundred million acres of alluvial land in northern India which could produce a billion tons of grain—as much as is now grown in the whole world.

Rivers would have to be dammed, tubewells sunk to tap the underground rivers of the Ganges and Brahmaputra basins, land shaped for irrigation, canals and drainage channels dug, and new patterns of farming and financing evolved. Politically, it would be the most difficult agricultural development ever attempted, requiring the coop-

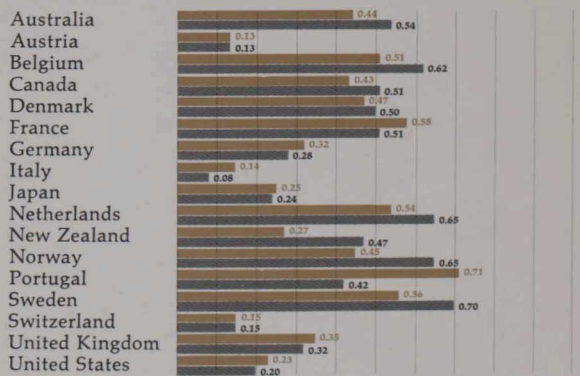
eration of Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sikkim—but it could be done. The technologies are already designed and the price would be one the world could easily afford to pay. By the year 2000, India would have a billion people and it would be able to feed them. Other lands now producing little could also be made to produce much more.

The International Development Research Centre, a Canadian-supported agency with a multi-national directorate, is designed to help bring

The assumptions of the International Development Research Centre are that the world can feed itself through technological development and that the advanced nations have a responsibility to help it do so. Corn, upper left, can be adapted to climate and husked and stored efficiently. The usefulness of the cassava root, held by J. H. Hulse of the IDRC, is being increased through a project in Colombia, described on page seven. The technician at lower right is helping make an airborne survey of 82,000 square kilometers of Nigerian land to determine its development potential. The nations charted upper right have contributed substantially to international aid, although none has yet given the full one per cent of its gross national product recommended by the study headed by Lester Pearson for the World Bank.



Percentage of GNP Contributed in International Aid (1975 Figures Are Projected).*



* World Bank

