

My second comment is about fisheries. The resources of the sea are virtually untapped, and I believe that more attention should be devoted to their exploitation. Our own aid programmes have given a high priority to assisting the fishing industry and we have found that this can yield encouraging returns. Among the benefits has been the improvement of nutritional standards as a result of the enlarged supply of this high protein food.

INTERIM SUPPLY OF FOOD

The other main aspect of the problem... is the provision of food supplies on an interim basis. Probably only a few DAC members are in a position to make a large-scale contribution in kind. Other donor countries can, however, play their part through increased contributions of cash or shipping services, either through the World Food Programme or under special arrangements such as were recently made to meet the emergency food needs of India. An excellent example of this type of aid was the British Government's cash contribution earlier this year to help meet the cost of shipping foodstuffs to India.

Although Canada makes a cash contribution to the World Food Programme, our main multilateral and bilateral food aid is in the form of foodstuffs, principally wheat, which we have supplied in considerable quantities over the years.

This year Canada mounted an unprecedented food-aid programme, including the provision of one million tons of foodstuffs, largely wheat, to India to help meet the emergency situation there. Every bushel of wheat we have provided may be considered as a lost commercial sale; we have made this effort despite the fact that commercial exports of wheat are a vital element in our balance of payments and in the livelihood of Canadians.

Although food aid is in one sense humanitarian relief for the hungry, we also regard it as an integral part of our regular development assistance. By responding to the urgent need for food aid we are freeing, for purposes more directly related to the economic development process, foreign-exchange resources that would otherwise be used for the purchase of foodstuffs.

AID TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It is our present intention to continue this food aid on the basis of grants rather than loans, in order to ensure that the debt-servicing positions of the developing countries are not further strained. In our view, it is necessary to draw a clear distinction between terms of aid and conditions of aid. While keeping our terms liberal, we are anxious to join with others in efforts to ensure that food aid will be used under conditions that will have the maximum impact in improving levels of agricultural productivity in the developing countries.

As Canada expands the size of its bilateral and multilateral aid programmes, more resources will become available for assistance to agriculture, and we look to DAC for increasing help in administering this assistance. DAC might well serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and techniques for improve-

ments in the carrying-out of aid programmes in the agricultural sector. Exchanges of views with countries whose experience is greater than our own would be most helpful and would assist us in responding to the aid requests of the developing countries and in suggesting to them how Canadian agricultural assistance might be more effective.

In addition, a co-ordinated approach might be particularly helpful in leading to greater emphasis on self-help in agriculture and the importance of adequate performance by the developing countries. The DAC had done some general work in this field and more may be possible. IBRD consortia and consultative groups can also play a helpful role. We intend to rely increasingly on these groups to evaluate, on a country-by-country basis, the priority to be given to the various sectors of the economy, the adequacy of the performance of the local governments, and the most appropriate form and terms for external assistance. DAC might find it useful to look closely at the role of IBRD groups to see if there are ways to make them even more effective.

OTHER SOURCES OF AID

Here we are quite properly concerned with official aid programmes, the channel through which the bulk of assistance will have to flow. However, we should not overlook non-governmental groups which can play a helpful role in complementing these official activities. For example, private industry can make a real contribution and FAO is already attempting to co-ordinate and encourage these activities. A most significant recent development has been the action of His Holiness the Pope in setting up a special committee, headed by Cardinal Roy of Canada, to mobilize the Church for an active role in the world's war on hunger. Similar work is being done by other churches and by various secular organizations; the agricultural research work of the Rockefeller Foundation, for example, has been outstanding....

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MURALS FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY

The appointment of three artists to execute works for the new National Library was announced recently by Public Works Minister George J. McIlraith.

Two murals 35 by 9 feet in size will be painted on the site by Dr. Charles Comfort, former director of the National Gallery of Canada, who has resumed his career as a professional artist. Two others of the same dimensions will be painted in sections by Alfred Pellán, well-known Quebec artist and teacher.

Two of the murals will be located in the main reading rooms and the others in the main catalogue and reference room on the second floor.

The third artist is John Hutton of London, England, who is creating glass screens for the main entrance and the main lobbies on three other floors. His work will represent figures from the world of literature and will be engraved directly on the glass.

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