

dramatic developments in Africa, including a number of military coup d'états, should not conceal the considerable achievements of independent African countries in the few years of their existence. The Organization of African Unity is a striking achievement of the African aim of unity and diversity.

There are the continuing international tensions arising out of the maintenance of colonial control in some areas. There are the specially difficult problems presented by conditions in South Africa and Rhodesia. There are problems of national unity within states where traditional groupings scarcely fit within boundaries laid down by colonial powers. The President of Tanzania, Julius Nyerere, has referred to the independence movement having begun "to put the flesh of emotional unity on the skeleton of legal unity". He has warned that "our boundaries are so absurd that they must be regarded as sacrosanct".

I have tried to provide a few interesting glimpses into a vast subject, in the hope of stimulating curiosity about something new. We have to experience some of the excitement of rediscovery. We have to develop an interest in studying a new relation between Africa and other continents. We must feel some sympathy with the patience, gaiety, cheerful courage and ability of the African peoples as they re-create their societies. Otherwise the facts of Canadian relations with African nations and the political intricacies of a crisis become dull or confusing.

### Canadian Activities

Against that background, the significance of the steady growth of Canadian relations with African nations in recent years may become clearer. It was not so long ago that, except for activities of the churches, one could point to few examples of sustained or general contacts in this field. Now we can point to significant contacts in several fields.

Members of the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations may be aware chiefly of technical, educational and some other types of assistance to African nations. Canada began a separate programme of assistance for Commonwealth countries in Africa in 1961. The funds allocated for this assistance last year were almost three times those available at the beginning; 752 Commonwealth African students have received or are receiving training in Canadian institutions and 573 Canadian teachers and technical advisers have served or are serving in African assignments. Although the main emphasis has been on educational and technical assistance, some work has been done on capital projects, of which an irrigation and land-reclamation project in Ghana is one example. For the first time, there has been an allocation of special development loans on easy terms.

There is a separate programme for countries in Africa which were formerly French or Belgian dependent territories and in which French is still used as a language. Such assistance began in 1961, with an allocation of \$300,000 for educational work only, and now has an allocation of \$7,500,000 for a more extensive programme. There