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spring of 1975. Such a bank, it is thought, could facilitate the mobilizing of public and private capital to finance projects in directly production sectors of Commonwealth developing countries.

Another key element in the Commonwealth time-table is the bi-annual Senior Officials meeting. Cabinet Secretaries, for the second time on a regular basis, met in May to consider items referred to them by Heads of Government, to review the procedures and agenda for the next Heads of Government meeting and to continue an exchange of ideas on comparative techniques of government. They approved the establishment of the Program for Applied Studies in Government. This new Commonwealth scheme will provide senior public servants with opportunities for study and the exchange of experience.

### Other spheres of co-operation

The Commonwealth spirit embraces more than just Commonwealth leaders and officials; it reaches to the grass roots of member countries. The year 1974 opened characteristically with a ministerial



*Vernon L. B. Mendis, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka, presents Letter of Commission to Governor General Jules Léger.  
Information Canada Photothèque.*

meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, on health, physical education and recreation, and the 10th Commonwealth Games. The week of January 24 to February 2 saw 39 teams from the various member countries and associated states competing. Australia, England, Canada, New Zealand and Kenya were the top five medal winners. The Commonwealth Games Federation, which met during the activities, chose Edmonton as the site of the 1978 Commonwealth Games.

Non-governmental activities included an African Studies Conference at Dalhousie University which brought together academics from Commonwealth and Francophone countries. There were new initiatives by the National Council of the Royal Commonwealth Society and its eight branches, including a student seminar and model Heads of Government meeting organized by the Ottawa branch.

At the Sixth Commonwealth Education Conference, held in Kingston, Jamaica, in June, a proposal for a Commonwealth Program for Applied Studies in Education was examined. The agenda also featured training programs in text-book development and production, and in education supervision and administration, as well as the Book Gift Voucher Scheme, and the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. The question of health-service delivery in rural areas was a main subject of the Commonwealth Medical Conference in Colombo in November. Thirty-five specialized conferences permitting detailed analysis of specific problems were also held in 1974. One such conference was a seminar during September in Blantyre, Malawi, on the training and use of medical auxiliaries in east, central and southern Africa. This was jointly sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency and the Commonwealth Secretariat. In 1974 Canada began implementing the decision reached by the 1973 Heads of Government meeting to extend humanitarian assistance to the indigenous people of