and Mr. Peter Scott, a representative of Sir William Holcrow and Partners, a firm of Consulting Engineers connected with the proposed undertaking.

At the present time the economy of Ghana is based largely on the production of cocoa, which has been subject to rather violent price fluctuations in recent months. The Government and the people of Ghana look upon the Volta River Project as the main hope for industrializing and developing their economy. As the Prime Minister himself has said, "No man can stand for long on one leg. It is not wise for this country to continue to rely on a 'one-crop' economy".

After our visit to the dam site, and having talked with the men concerned, I am convinced that the estimate they have made of the cost of the project is a realistic one, including a wide range of contingencies. I have a bulky report of the Preparatory Commission's findings in my office. I understand that the present estimated cost in $630,000,000.00. This figure is considerably higher than the original estimate which constituted the initial basis of negotiations involving the Aluminum Company of Canada, the British aluminum interests, the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Ghana.

Everyone with whom we discussed the matter, seemed satisfied that the Volta River Project would be self-sustaining and self-liquidating. At present one bauxite deposit is being developed in a limited way for export. There is another bauxite deposit located near the proposed dam site. In addition to this construction of a dam and smelter, a railway line is required in order to transport the bauxite to the source of electric power.

One of the important benefits of the Volta River Project could be the irrigation of the Accra plain. At the present time this area is semi-arid, with very little forest cover. The irrigation of this plain would make possible the development of scientific agriculture, including the large-scale cultivation of tropical fruits, such as bananas, grapefruit, pineapples and oranges. Coffee and rubber can also be produced in the area.

Undoubtedly the project would result in increased employment in the country, as well as an increase in its exports. An incidental but important effect would be the reduction of the tropical scourge called "river blindness" by limiting the amount of swiftly moving water in which the disease-bearing organisms thrive. Whole communities adjacent to the rivers are affected with blindness caused by a parasite that thrives in fast running water.

The Volta River dam, when constructed, would submerge 2,310 square miles, of which only 75 square miles has heretofore been under cultivation of any kind. It is anticipated that the project, including the earth fill type of dam, would require seven or eight years to complete and would ultimately produce 600,000 kilowatts of power.

A Government pamphlet also states that the new lake created by the dam would extend some 300 miles and would produce more fish than is presently harvested along the coastline of Ghana.

As a prerequisite of this development, the Government of Ghana is constructing a new harbour and port facilities at Tema, about fifteen miles from Accra. This port area is presently served by a new railway line which eventually will be extended to the site of the proposed aluminum plant and power development.

During our visit to Ghana I had opportunities to meet many Government people. I must say that I was very much impressed by the ability, sincerity and apparent good judgment of the Prime Minister of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. He was called upon many times during the Independence festivities for speeches and on any occasion that I heard him, his remarks were most appropriate and moderate.

Dr. Nkrumah's senior Cabinet Ministers, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Gbedmah; the Minister of Trades and Labour, Mr. Botsio; and the Minister of Communications,