

The purpose of one of the irrigation projects which Canada's assistance is making possible in Pakistan is to restore the productivity of an area which has been completely barren of any harvest for centuries. A number of Canadians are working on that project, which on completion will reclaim a huge triangular area of 93,000 acres for agricultural purposes and will produce 150,000 kilowatts of electrical energy per year as well.

I refer to the large dam at Peshawar. This project is a splendid example of the most modern methods and achievements of Western technology being applied by the Asian peoples with our assistance. This seems to me a very hopeful sign for future relations between the East and the West, and another proof of our desire to do what we can, without exerting any form of influence upon them, to help our friends there to improve their standard of living.

While I am speaking of Pakistan, I should also like to mention another project recently completed under the terms of the Colombo Plan. I refer to the aerial survey carried out in that country with Canadian funds and Canadian personnel to determine the resources of this fellow member of the Commonwealth. This survey will serve as a basis on which our friends can establish a sound policy for the most efficient exploitation of their natural resources.

These projects and others like them are examples not only of our feeling of friendship for the countries of Asia, and our understanding of their problems, but also of our realization of the importance of intelligent use of the world's natural resources in the interests of peace and prosperity in the world.

India also is hard at work in a gigantic effort to make the resources of that country meet the needs of its huge population under the leadership of Mr. Nehru, the Prime Minister. Of course, the problems of production in India are very different from those with which we are faced in Canada. In a model farming village near New Delhi, which Mr. St. Laurent visited, practically all the work is done by hand. About the only contribution of Western technology consists of the iron hoes being used by those working in the fields. And yet, even this simple tool has brought excellent results in enabling the inhabitants to meet their needs from the natural resources at their disposal.

The Indians have set themselves a massive task in carrying out a programme which will enable them to restore the productivity of their soil and to use their natural resources to maximum efficiency. I cannot help but think how fortunate we are in Canada to have such an abundance of unexpended natural resources. Surely that good fortune carries with it a great responsibility to see that they are used intelligently, not only for our own benefit, but in the best interest of mankind as a whole.

You are all aware, I am sure, that here in Canada, the British North America Act grants to the various provincial governments jurisdiction over land, forest, mineral and water power resources except on those lands