

are epitomized by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report for 1956-57, in which he stated: "If properly used, the United Nations can serve the diplomacy of reconciliation better than other instruments available to the member states. All the varied interests and aspirations of the world meet in its precincts upon the common ground of the Charter."

### The Commonwealth

Canadians have a special pleasure, too, in welcoming Malaya, the newest member of the Commonwealth, as a member of the United Nations. Last year another member of the Commonwealth, Ghana, was elected to membership. We believe that the emergency of these new nations is an indication of growth and expansion of the concept of self-government and of the manner in which nations, one after another, attain independence but still remain members of that association of free nation which is known as the Commonwealth, which represents many different areas, colours and cultures, which has no rules or regulations and no constitution, which is a unity forged by the sharing of a heritage of common ideals and a love of freedom under law.

Over the last years, hundreds of millions of people in Asia and Africa have achieved independence and sovereignty, for which the credit must go to the statesmen of the United Kingdom. It is incredible that the British should be described here on occasion as "imperial and colonial masters", in view of this far-seeing policy which grants self-government so widely, and I am confident that our friends from Ghana and Malaya would be glad to invite comparison with what has happened to Hungary and to many other freedom-loving nations which have been subjugated by the U.S.S.R. in the past four decades.

### Relations with United States

But our membership in the Commonwealth, while fundamental to our destiny, does not detract in any way from the closeness and neighbourliness of our relationships with the United States. We are joined with our neighbours in the United States by what I have called before our "built-in stabilizers" for unity, our traditional respect for the rights of man and our unswerving dedication to freedom. I think it is clearly established and is irrefutable that, if the United States was aggressive and sought territorial advantage and fomented war, as its enemies contend, Canada would not have maintained its existence as an independent nation.