

to the Commonwealth as a whole and to Canada in particular. A number of colonial territories in Africa and in the British West Indies obtained new constitutions, providing for the assumption of larger responsibilities by the local populations. From the Canadian point of view, perhaps the most interesting development was the publication of the report of the British Caribbean Standing Closer Association Committee, headed by Sir Hubert Rance, now Governor of Trinidad, and including leading persons from almost all United Kingdom territories in the Caribbean area. The Rance Committee, one of several bodies appointed to study aspects of the closer association of British Caribbean territories, expressed the view that a basis for possible political federation existed which might lead to economic stability and thereby to political independence for the group of colonies as a whole.

When the new Trinidad constitution came into force, the Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association made a gift of books to the new Legislative Council of Trinidad on behalf of the Parliament of Canada, and indicated its sympathetic interest in the proposal for closer association. The Trinidad Legislature passed resolutions of thanks.