

The Colombo meeting was attended by Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. As Mr. Pearson stated in the House in February last:

"The Colombo Plan calls for a capital development programme in Commonwealth countries of South-East Asia totalling about \$5 billion over a 6-year period - about \$2 billion will be raised internally and about \$3 billion will come from external sources. Private capital is one such source but with the present international situation it cannot be as important as it should be. The International Bank might well finance some of the larger projects, and has already made loans to India and Thailand".

The United Kingdom has said it will contribute through the medium of sterling balance releases as it has been doing to a very considerable extent. Australia is contributing 7 million pounds sterling, which is 21 million dollars, in the first year and over the 6-year period she will contribute the equivalent of 75 million dollars. As you all know, Canada has contributed 25 million dollars this year.

It is with the proper and careful spending of this 25 million dollars of the taxpayers money that my new Division is particularly concerned - or will be when I get it set up.

The Colombo Plan itself breaks down into two sections and the organization in Canada will likewise have two sections. One devoted to the training of personnel of many kinds, the other to the provision of capital goods.

I will talk first about the Technical Assistance end. Canada put up the sum of \$400,000 this year to cover the training in this country of technical personnel from South-East Asia. In addition we contributed \$850,000 as a grant to the United Nations to aid its technical assistance programme for 18 months. In all therefore we contributed 1 1/2 million dollars. This training of technical personnel from Asia is vital. It is difficult in a highly developed industrial society such as ours to realize how different the situation is in Asia. Practically all our young boys grow up with a complete familiarity with electrical apparatus, machinery of all kinds, radios, automobiles, etc. etc. The boys in Asia, for the most part, come into contact with none of these things.

We cannot hope to raise the standards of living of these peoples except by using the methods by which we ourselves have become wealthy, we must aid the man by the machine; but first the man must know how to use the machine and how to take care of it. So that more food can be grown and the terrible famines averted, the whole field of Asian agriculture must be given a face lifting - that means trained experts, thousands of them! If hydro, and other forms of electrical generation are to be developed, as indeed they must, literally thousands of electrical engineers must be trained, and so I could go on, but you are practical men, you can see the problem in all fields.

So far this year we have accepted about 80 students and trainees, about 50 of whom have arrived. They comprise whole Missions, such as an Agricultural Mission which travelled around, visiting Agricultural Colleges, Experimental Farms, etc. A Hydro Mission which is now visiting various