

anywhere they want them to go and make them accept any terms they want to force on them, but it does seem to me worth noting that there is now quite a likelihood that any experts we cannot supply, the South-East Asians can, should they so wish, obtain from the Soviet area.

There is one more point I would like to make and that is that we have tried to disperse the trainees we receive from South-East Asia as widely as possible around Canada and so far as possible we have tried to do the same in the selection of technical experts, and there has been a definite reason behind this. It seems to me that not only are we giving training to South-East Asians but we are an exporting country and are likely to be so for many years to come. South-East Asia will, we hope, when its people acquire a little more wealth, be purchasers of our equipment, and it is therefore good that as many as possible of our business men and professional people should become acquainted with the area, apart altogether from the humanitarian issues which are also involved. British, German and American contractors have had a lot of experience in foreign fields and now under Colombo Plan auspices some of our contractors are obtaining like experience in South-East Asia.

I do not think I have anything more to tell you today except this: that the more I see of this operation, the more I believe it to be vitally necessary if we are to maintain a free world and not see huge chunks of it succumb to the totalitarian doctrine. However, I would also like to say that the glamour and excitement of finding proper operational paths and of beginning our first projects have long ago given place to the hard grind of keeping a large number of projects up to schedule and dealing with the multifarious problems which, of necessity, arise from them. This is so not only in our Canadian operations; it is so in the whole field of Western aid to South-East Asia and other under-developed areas. The merging of highly technically advanced nations in the aid field with very under-developed and non-technically minded people presents an enormous number of very complicated problems. Whereas the first thing a child in our home stumbles over is his mother's vacuum sweeper or some other piece of electrical equipment, the only thing the child in the Asian village knows is how to twist the bullock's tail to make him go a little faster. The two states of mind are vastly different and to bring them together and, still more important, to forge a friendship between them in the process, is not an easy task. But I think I can say that we are slowly accomplishing it.

The end has come to the first Five Year Plan in India and by and large it has been successful. Now they embark on their Second Five Year Plan, which will again enmesh them in more hard work, and vast expenditures on development and still leave millions of their people in the agricultural villages in a state of insecurity and great poverty, not judged by our standards but by almost any standards; and so it is in all these countries—what is being done is slow and all too little.

The task to which we have set our hand is by no means finished.