

1972 and one more will open in Winnipeg in June 1973. In addition, in 1972 the Department introduced the booklet *Information for Canadians Travelling Overseas*, which is being distributed to all passport applicants. The information in this booklet will be revised annually.

I have long felt that it is important for my Department to be as forthcoming as is reasonably practicable to the public and to Parliament. A notable example of the progress we have made in this field is the publication, which began last year, of *International Perspectives* replacing the old monthly bulletin, *External Affairs*. The purpose of this new publication is to stimulate and encourage debate and to allow free expression of representative points of view without regard to our own policy on the issue.

Canada's development-assistance program is an integral and important part of its overall foreign relations and one which has been steadily evolving. Development is not something taking place in what we refer to as "developing" countries but a process we are all involved in as individuals and as nations. Development is a matter of degree and the pattern of development one of national preference. All countries are "developing", economically and socially; all countries have "underdeveloped" areas. We can no longer assume that the industrialized countries have reached some plateau of progress from which knowledge and assistance is dispensed to those struggling to reach our level. Our role is not to impose our methods and preferences on other countries but to assist them where our capabilities and their needs coincide. Development assistance is being recognized increasingly as a reciprocal and responsive process. If we are prepared to be innovative, we can gain much knowledge from the development-assistance relationship.

Development assistance is in the Canadian interest. We cannot exist in isolation, and our life is enriched by contact with other cultures. There are also specific Canadian interests which benefit from the development-assistance program. The program can provide an impetus to Canadian exports and employment but the primary objective remains the economic and social development of the less-developed countries.

Turning to the CIDA estimates for 1973/74 which are before you today, I would like to draw a distinction between the level shown in the estimates for the total program and what we term official development assistance (ODA). The appropriations for the total program include the operating costs of CIDA and contributions to superannuation accounts; ODA does not. Secondly, appropriations for the total program include votes to finance over a period of years the purchase of shares in multilateral institutions, such as the votes of \$40.4 million and \$7.575 million in 1972/73 to purchase shares of stock in the Inter-American Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank; ODA, on the other hand, includes only the installments committed for that year from past or present votes. The level of appropriations for 1973/74 is \$501.696 million, compared to \$483.366 million in 1972/73; ODA for 1973/74 is \$565 million, compared to \$491 million in 1972/73.

In 1972/73 our disbursements were \$449 million, a satisfactory increase of 21½ per cent over last year's figure. Total figures such as this, however, can give no measure of the effectiveness and quality of our program, or of the new directions we are taking.