

abundance of goodwill in all the countries I visited for Canada and Canadians, and that we have a splendid reputation to live up to. I found that all our representatives abroad, unofficial as well as official, are doing excellent work for Canada.

Perhaps without being in any danger of drawing upon "off the record" material I can say something about the impressions I brought back from my short visit to the Asian nations of the Commonwealth, India, Pakistan and Ceylon, both as to our own relations with those countries, particularly our participation in the Colombo Plan and, also, as to the place of the great Indian sub-continent in world affairs.

I hope you will not feel I am so conceited or so fatuous as to think that I could see enough in that short visit to provide a foundation for conclusions that would have any real value. But I did start out with some background information derived from quite a lot of reading about the countries I was going to visit; and I am relying upon what I did see only as a spot check or sampling which has given me a clearer appreciation of what I had learned from books and despatches and reports from others with far more experience than I could hope to gain in a brief visit.

One important fact we all know from statistical reports is that there are more people in India, Pakistan and Ceylon than twice the combined population of the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. But it is one thing to read that the population of the Indian sub-continent is about 445 million people and quite another to see something of how they live and work and conduct their common affairs.

We in the Western world are apt to think of world affairs in terms of the free nations of Europe and North America on the one side and the Communist-dominated world on the other. I suppose it is natural for us to think of South and Southeast Asia as an area whose people also have to choose one side or the other in the so-called "cold war" and who should be just as much concerned about the outcome of that cold war as we are.

No doubt the consequences of a Communist victory over the West if that could happen would be very serious for the peoples of Asia in the long run, but it is not reasonable to expect the peoples of Asia to see the importance of these matters from the same angle that we do.

What has happened to countries like Poland, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Austria and other nations of Eastern Europe is something that had real meaning for us, but the enslavement of these countries cannot have the same immediate significance for the vast multitudes of these people of Asia.

Many millions of them may never have even heard of most of those countries and they have had very little contact and not much experience with Soviet Russia at any time. It is equally true that they know little about North America, but they do know that the main language used in North America is English and that most of its people are of Western European origin and their