

development efforts over the Colombo Plan period. This was the British contribution to the Plan, and, considering the financial state of Great Britain over the last few years, it was a particularly generous one.

Turning now to the countries which have made grants, and converting those grants to their dollar equivalents for easier understanding, Australia has promised the equivalent of \$75 million over the six-year period of the Plan, about \$20 million of which she has already made available. New Zealand will give the equivalent of \$9 million for a period of three years, and has already made about \$3 million available. Canada contributed \$25 million during the fiscal year 1951-52, and has now contributed \$25 million for the present fiscal year, making a total of \$50 million so far.

In addition, the International Bank has made development loans to India and Pakistan amounting to roughly \$45 million. United States assistance has aggregated about \$250 million, which includes the emergency wheat loan to India amounting to \$190 million. The United States has also granted assistance to Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam, amounting to \$40 million for 1951-52. The Ford Foundation began operations in the area during 1951-52, and anticipates, I understand, an annual expenditure of about \$5 million for a period of some years.

Foreign financial assistance, therefore, to Ceylon, India, Pakistan, other Southeast Asian countries and the United Kingdom colonial territories has thus amounted to very roughly \$400 million during the period covered by the first year of the Colombo Plan.

Why The Colombo Plan At All?

I think the next question we have to ask ourselves is why we engaged in this operation at all, and it is a question which is very frequently thrown at me.

It has been said that a nation cannot exist half-slave and half-free. World events today show that a free democratic world cannot exist half-fed and half-starved, and once again we are much concerned with the maintenance of a free democratic world. To maintain such a world, we fought two world wars, which contributed their own quota to the dislocation and chaos of our established social and economic systems.

Twice we have determined upon noble ventures in international co-operation. In the case of the League of Nations, our efforts failed and the result was World War II. The terrible results of that war are still so evident that I need not go into them today.

But it is well that we pause here and reflect on the fact that although we defeated in those two wars the particular brand of totalitarianism we were fighting at that time, we have since found no effective way of coping with the much more sinister, diabolical, worldwide totalitarian force which bedevils the affairs of the world at the present time. It is well also that we remember that the free world has lost Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Albania and East Germany in Europe; and that Communism has made a great inroad in Asia by taking over the 500 million people of China, and