

The Address—Mr. Carrick

Canada and certain internal matters that it would be presumptuous on my part to add anything to what he has said, but there are a few matters in the external field to which I should like to refer briefly.

The speech from the throne says that parliament will be asked for its continued support of the Colombo plan. Hon. members will recall that it was a mixture of political, humanitarian and economic considerations that prompted Canada along with the other participants to embark upon the Colombo plan in 1950. The original members of the plan, the British commonwealth countries and the federation of Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo and Sarawak, were joined by the United States in 1951.

The countries benefiting by the plan occupy one-sixth of the world's land area in south and southeast Asia and comprise about one-quarter of the world's population. The essential object is to help those countries to help themselves by furnishing to them economic aid and technical assistance which they can integrate with their own national programs. To date Canada has made available under the plan \$120 million, as well as \$5 million in the form of a special grant of wheat at a time of emergency, for which counterpart funds have been created for agreed development purposes. From Canada the recipients to date of both capital aid and technical assistance have been India, Pakistan and Ceylon, while some other countries have received a limited amount of technical assistance.

This year it is proposed to ask parliament to appropriate \$26.4 million for the plan, which is \$1 million over the appropriation for the current year. The \$1 million increase will be used to increase technical assistance and to explore projects worthy of future development. Where projects of this kind are involved there is no question about the support being continued. It is only a question of the maximum this country can afford to provide in view of the difficulty of raising funds and the other pressing demands for expenditure.

The speech from the throne refers to certain responsibilities that are being assumed in Indo-China. Hon. members will recall that at the Geneva conference last year a cease-fire and armistice agreement was brought about. Subsequently Canada, together with India and Poland, was asked to appoint representatives to international commissions for Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam. With a full recognition of the complexity and magnitude

of the tasks involved the Canadian government consented to do this as a contribution to peace in east Asia.

At the present time the commissions are engaged in the military phase of the armistice. Elections are called for in 1956 in Viet Nam, which will elect an all-Viet Nam government, and Canadian services cannot be fully performed until after that date. At the present time there are about 160 Canadian personnel, both military and civil, in the area. These obligations involve financial burdens which Canada is only too glad to assume in pursuance of its policy to promote peace anywhere and at any time.

Reference has also been made in the speech from the throne to the Paris pacts which will come before the house for consideration involving the restoration of sovereignty to West Germany along with limited rearmament. Hon. members will recall that it was sought to bring West Germany into the western collective security system through the medium of the European defence community. The EDC treaty failed of ratification before the French assembly in August of last year. The possibility of the French assembly refusing to ratify the EDC treaty had been foreseen and alternative plans were laid before it came up in the French house, which were consummated in the form of the Paris agreements in October.

The proposal to rearm Germany has caused great concern in the minds of many people. They have not forgotten that Germany has plunged the world into two wars within our generation, and they are asking themselves whether the rearmament of Germany forebodes the revival of the nazi mentality with its theories of racial superiority, militarism, genocide, the concentration camp, and the gas chamber. These are misgivings that any reasonable person might feel.

The problem, however, has to be faced as to what is going to be done with Germany. It must be abundantly clear, at least for the time being, that it is not possible to reach any agreement with Russia. Deadlock was reached in the two conferences of the foreign ministers held in Berlin in 1949 and 1954, and it would appear at the present time that the western powers are obliged to proceed without any agreement with Russia.

The proposal is to restore sovereignty to Germany and to authorize Germany to have a maximum armed force of 500,000 men. This force will be combined with the armed forces of the western countries. A limit is to be placed upon the war potential of western Germany and an agency is to be set up to