

Ceylon, both similarly great friends of Canada, of Ghana, Malaya and now Nigeria and, shortly to come, The West Indies Federation, Uganda, Tanganyika and Kenya; and sooner or later the problems of the Central African Federation will be worked out. When we think of these developments going on in the Commonwealth at this time, we have every reason to be proud of our membership in that organization.

I know from my own discussions in London with Lord Home, Secretary for Commonwealth Relations, and Selwyn Lloyd that these British statesmen are deeply concerned about launching these new nations. They are putting much thought into working out the best plan to help these nations gain their independence. Here is statesmanship of the highest order.

In these short months the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth will be meeting and there further great steps forward will be taken. I think of the contribution our own Prime Minister made in 1957 when, within a few days of taking over his present position, he got on a plane and went to London to participate in a Commonwealth Conference and there gave splendid leadership which had a great deal to do with making the Conference the success that it was. He will be leaving us again for the meetings which commence early in May. Because of the contacts and friendships he made with leaders of all the other Commonwealth nations at the Conference in 1957 and during his tour in 1958, I believe that Canada can do a great deal at the Conference in May of 1960 to strengthen further the Commonwealth and to help to implement the plans for launching new members on the world scene.

Scholarships

There is one other aspect of Commonwealth relations which is very important to us at the present time and that is the plan for Commonwealth scholarships. It was in 1958, at a conference in Montreal, that arrangements were made to set up a Commonwealth Scholarship Plan and that Plan is now about to function. Last summer a Commonwealth Conference on Education was held in England which took further steps toward implementing the Scholarship Plan. It approved a Canadian proposal for an exchange of high-level academic scholarships between different parts of the Commonwealth. It was agreed that a total of 1,000 scholarships should be exchanged between the nations of the Commonwealth, and Canada undertook to place 250 students from other parts of the Commonwealth in Canadian universities and other educational institutions at a cost of about \$1 million per year.

To guide Canada's participation in the Scholarship Plan, the Government has appointed a Canadian Scholarship Committee. The Committee is working smoothly in receiving applications from students in other Commonwealth countries who wish to study in Canada and in processing the applications of Canadians who wish to study abroad under the Plan. I am hoping that this fall 100 to 125 students from other parts of the Commonwealth will come to Canada under the Plan. They will be here for a two-year term and at the start there will be about 125.