

its efforts to crown its political revolution with an economic and social revolution.

It is partly the number of problems; it is partly the toughness of each individual problem, some of them rooted in traditions of millenia, not centuries. It is partly the number of people or things involved in the solution of an individual problem.

I am not thinking so much of the size of the whole population of India, though a figure of almost 400 million is staggering. I am thinking of what this total population means when translated into the terms of individual problems.

I remember, for example, how astounded I was when I first learned that there are about twelve million babies born every year in India, and that this means that the problem of providing adequate maternal care in India means providing adequate care to as many people as make up three-quarters of the whole population of Canada, which is about 16 million people.

When I found that there are in India about 80 million boys and girls of the ages of six to fourteen, I realized something of the size of the task of giving adequate schooling to all these children.

I know you want to improve the breed of your livestock, and that artificial insemination is one of the methods. But it must be a staggering number of artificial insemination centres which will be required to deal with your 160 million cattle alone, and I suppose you will also want to improve the breed of your 45 million water buffaloes, your 40 million sheep and your 50 million goats.

Your problems are so numerous, so intractable, so immense, so varied, covering so many fields - political, economic and social - that a people less courageous than the people of India would give up hope.

India in 1957 reminds me in some ways of Britain in 1940. In the summer of 1940, the cause of Britain appeared hopeless to almost everybody except the British. Britain refused to acknowledge the possibility of defeat, and Britain fought through to victory. It was courage that did it, and blood and sweat and tears.

I sense when I travel through India the same sort of courage which won Britain her victory. I have found it in talking to a supervisory engineer of a great dam, to a director of a community project, to a doctor in charge of a small hospital, to a school teacher in one of the new industrial towns. They know the strength of the enemies they are fighting - poverty, disease and ignorance, corruption and casteism. They know that the fight