

difficult, if not impossible. Australia has done so, and if I may be allowed to say to you, Sir, we in Canada will deeply appreciate the announcement that you made this evening, that you too in this nation intend to take steps in that direction. In other words, let's expand trade, not exclusively within the Commonwealth, but let us expand within the Commonwealth. Let us realize this fact - that not only have we common traditions, not only have we a common dedication to the fundamental freedoms, but in addition there must be something more to bind us together. That something more is trade. At least it is one of the elements to which I intend to make reference.

The trade between Canada and your country makes it possible for us to purchase from you some \$27 million worth of goods a year. You in turn purchase from us some \$3 million worth. In so far as rubber is concerned, almost 80 per cent or even more than 80 per cent of the rubber that we purchase comes from your country. In addition to that, in so far as tin is concerned, the maximum amount of the tin which we purchase is purchased from Malaya and in order to assure the expansion of trade in that direction we have undertaken that we shall not purchase tin elsewhere than from the nations that joined together under the commodity agreement. That is the first step.

Colombo Plan

The second step is a step whereby each of us regards the other as his brother's keeper. One of the most important steps that has been taken among the nations who are dedicated to freedom has been the building up of that system that gradually expands year by year, and I refer to the Colombo Plan, whereby those of us who have been blessed in certain directions economically, find ourselves in a position where we may be of some benefit to other portions of the Commonwealth and also beyond the Commonwealth. Some years ago I was in New Zealand and Australia at a Parliamentary Conference attended by Dato Nik, as we call him, one of the delegates from Malaya. After that Conference, and having met with the representatives from Asia in particular, I returned to Canada and there advocated a large increase in the amount of Colombo Plan aid. I was in opposition then. Well I heard about that very frequently; every time I spoke of economies that should be indulged in, it was pointed out to me that when I came back I wanted to spend millions. Well, we came into power and the very first thing that we did, or one of the earliest things, was to give attention to the need of expanding and extending the amount of Colombo Plan expenditures on the part of our country. In the past few years, the amount expended has been some \$30 million a year. We raised it first to \$35 million a year; six weeks ago we announced that that amount had been increased to \$50 million a year, and for the next three years \$150 million will be devoted to Colombo Plan expenditures by the Dominion of Canada. That is a long step forward. It means this, that we believe that this Plan, enabling each of the nations to use the aid for the particular purpose of