

It says much for the millions of Asia that so many have so far turned a deaf ear and have chosen the slower way of democratic constitutional government, but it also puts a great responsibility on their governments to prove to them that the way they have chosen is the best and will really produce for them a better way of life. This responsibility is not that of those governments alone, it must be shared by the whole free world if that world is to be kept in being and strengthened to the point where it is practically unassailable by sheer weight of numbers and the strong cement of a grim determination to be free and to preserve all that human freedom means. But here we must remember one of the sayings of Confucius: "An empty stomach does not dwell on high principles". In other words, a hungry man will follow any banner which has the word "food" written on it. Now let us see what the free world is doing in co-operation with the free governments of Asia to write the words "food and betterment" on its banner.

The Aid Agencies

There are many agencies engaged in aid to Asia and I will try to give you a brief description of them and what they are doing. I will take first the United Nations.

The ideal of technical assistance was embodied in the United Nations Charter itself. The United Nations Specialized Agencies now working in Asia are:

- (1) The International Labour Organization;
- (2) The Food and Agriculture Organization,
- (3) UNESCO (the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
- (4) The World Health Organization,
- (5) The International Civil Aviation Organization,
- (6) Children's Emergency Fund.

The programme of aid in which these agencies are engaged embraces: transport; industry; labour; education; science; finance; and health and welfare. These agencies send out experts in an endeavour to take the skills and knowledge of these many fields of endeavour to those places where they are most urgently needed - I have seen many of these experts at work on such fundamental and diverse problems for instance as: water-development, agricultural expansion, home building, adult education, artificial-rainfall experiments, geophysical research, technical schools, better health programmes and so on.

The next aid agency I want to talk about is the United States aid given under the Mutual Security Acts of 1951 and 1952 and operated in the past as the Point Four Programme, and the Economic and Technical Assistance Programme, both carried out in the field by TCA, which stands for the Technical Co-operation Administration. This has now been reorganized under the new administration and is now called the Foreign Operation Administration.