

will in itself be one of the most valuable result of these efforts.

I have mentioned these other activities because I thought it wise to emphasize that while we attach considerable importance to the scholarship plan, this will not be substituted for the other very substantial programmes now under way or contemplated. It has a particular meaning and its purpose is not only to increase the opportunities for education but also to increase and expand understanding and good will throughout the whole Commonwealth.

As I said before, I have carefully refrained from putting forward any details of the way in which such a scholarship plan can be set up and can operate most effectively. I am sure that the delegations meeting here today already have definite opinions which they wish to exchange. I do not believe that it would be helpful if I attempted to anticipate the work which the committees will do.

#### Meaning of Education

Having expressed our hopes about the scope and possibilities of a scholarship plan and wider co-operation in other fields, I hope I may be permitted to express some personal opinions about these vitally important subjects. First may I say that I think it is no good to give our young people a smattering of culture, if they are going to go hungry. For that reason I think there must be a very real emphasis on the practical aspects of education and the opportunities to put that education to work after it has been acquired. I am equally strong in my belief, however, that it is not much better to provide our young people with the ability to earn their daily bread, and to become economically independent, if we have not taught them how to live. As this is the first Commonwealth Education Conference held in our thirty years and the first ever to be attended by several of the nations represented here today, I do hope that this dual aspect of our educational problem will be constantly on our minds. I think it would be most unfortunate if this Conference should by any chance appear to be more concerned with the cold statistics involved in the allocation and financial support of scholars, or the training and supply of teachers, than with the purpose, content and meaning of the word "Education", which will be used so frequently during the next two weeks.

All too often we use the word "Education" when we are in fact thinking of the technique of instruction. It must be possible for us to define in simple and understandable terms the aims and objects of the kind of education which we believe will not only improve the social and economic standards of all the people within the Commonwealth, but will also contribute to a better and higher standard of life itself.