

economic progress and that the United States intended to co-ordinate to the greatest extent possible the programme it had undertaken, or might undertake, in the area with those programmes under the Colombo Plan.

I should also inform the House that we are immediately opening discussions with the Indian Government to see whether they would wish that some of the funds we provide this year under the Colombo Plan should be spent on Canadian wheat for their famine-stricken country. As yet, we do not know exactly what types of wheat, available in Canada, will be of use to India, nor, of course, do we know what next year's crop will be. However, it is our hope that some wheat may be provided to the Government of India in connection with the Plan. This wheat would, I imagine, be sold by the Indian Government to the people of India under its rationing system. The money so raised could then be devoted to capital developments. In the Colombo Report it is clearly recognized, especially in the case of India, that imports of food as well as imports of capital goods may serve in attaining the objectives of the Plan.

At the same time as we open discussions with the Indian authorities we shall open parallel discussions with the Pakistan authorities.

In conclusion, perhaps I might read to the House the last sentence of the Colombo Report which summarizes, so eloquently, our hopes for the success of the Colombo Plan.

"In a world racked by schism and confusion it is doubtful whether free men can long afford to leave undeveloped and imprisoned in poverty the human resources of the countries of South and South-East Asia which could help so greatly, not only to restore the world's prosperity, but also to redress its confusion and enrich the lives of all men everywhere."

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