

in those countries is still slower than we should like it to be. Much remains to be done. The problems of the economically under-developed countries are vast and complex and do not lend themselves to quick or easy solutions. In recognition of this, it was decided at the annual meeting of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee held in November at Jogjakarta, Indonesia, to extend the Plan for another five years; that is, until 1966, and to consider, before the end of the five-year period, the possibility of a further extension. Canada fully supported this decision and we intend to go on supporting the Colombo Plan to the best of our ability and to the greatest extent our resources permit.

Next is the Commonwealth assistance programme. Canadian aid to under-developed countries is not, of course, restricted to the Colombo Plan. Since 1958 we have been engaged in a \$10-million programme of aid to The West Indies which is to last for five years. We feel a special kinship to the people of The West Indies, who are struggling to establish within the Commonwealth a new nation, able to stand on its own feet, and to give its inhabitants a decent standard of living. The largest single item in our assistance to The West Indies is the construction of two ships for inter-island traffic at a cost of approximately \$6 million. A number of Canadian experts are being sent to The West Indies to advise the authorities there on various aspects of their development programme and to help train and instruct West Indians in the techniques required in a modern economy.

This Government is keenly aware as well of the needs of the newly independent and emerging states of the Commonwealth in the great continent of Africa. At the Montreal Conference, Canada announced a \$500,000 technical assistance programme for these states. I am pleased to report to the Committee that, within the last year, this new programme has enabled us to receive just under twenty trainees from Africa and to meet several requests for the services of Canadian experts.

Commonwealth Scholarships

Another plan is that providing for Commonwealth scholarships. The Commonwealth Conference on Education held at Oxford, England, last summer marked another milestone in Canadian efforts to contribute to the development of our Commonwealth partners. This conference approved a Canadian proposal for an exchange of high-level academic scholarships between the different parts of the Commonwealth. It was agreed that a total of 1,000 scholarships be exchanged and Canada undertook to place 250 students from other parts of the Commonwealth in Canadian universities and other educational institutions at a cost of about \$1 million annually. To guide Canada's participation in the important new scholarship plan, the Government has appointed a Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship Committee and this Committee is working smoothly in receiving applications from students in other Commonwealth countries who wish to study in Canada, and processing the applications of Canadians who wish to study abroad under this plan. This committee is set up under the Organization