

impact on three levels. Nationally, it satisfies the aims and aspirations of Canadians; it meets a very real need, whether conscious or unconscious, to find expression for a wider range of contacts; it provides satisfaction for an altruistic wish to do something about the problems of the world. Within the Commonwealth itself, it reinforces the association; it helps to strengthen Commonwealth identity and character; it assists continuity of Commonwealth activities. Internationally, it reinforces the "thrust" of foreign policy generally, and helps us to do a job that must be done with Commonwealth colleagues. At all these levels, the association will continue to figure prominently in our calculations.

It is against this background that we are now preparing for the heads of government meeting next April. The dynamic of international events will require us to add new questions to those with which heads of government are already familiar. The guideline must be to anticipate and analyze problems before they assume crisis proportions. We shall, with other governments, rededicate ourselves to the value and continuity of Commonwealth achievement.