

France, a geologist and a nurse from the Netherlands, a plant entomologist from the United Kingdom, a sericulturist from China, a Polish statistician, a Danish pediatrician, experts in teacher training and agricultural development from the United States, a public health adviser from India, and a Finnish obstetrician. I suppose obstetrics could be considered a form of technical assistance.

One simple and inexpensive change was introduced into Afghanistan by Mr. John Dickenson, a farmer from Arkansas, who obtained great results by introducing the hitherto unheard of common hoe. Mr. Owen, who is in charge of the UN technical assistance board, reported on this as follows:

"Traditionally the Afghan farmers have broadcast their cotton seed like wheat. But our agricultural experts proved, on his 34 demonstration plots, that if the cotton is planted in rows and if the farmer will use the hoe instead of the heavy mattock, then production will improve. In fact the first demonstration produced a yield two-and-a-half times greater than by the traditional methods, and the government promptly ordered 30,000 hoes, as well as encouraging their manufacture by local blacksmiths. By such very simple, indeed almost primitive, means as these, a small but decisive revolution is being brought about in Afghan production."

In addition to this kind of technical help, as has been pointed out already today, these people need sympathy, understanding and a knowledge of their local customs. In some respects that kind of approach and that kind of understanding are just as important as material support. Having said that, I should add that material support must follow sympathy and understanding of they cannot be effectively used. Perhaps for a moment we might look at what has been contributed by the United Nations in the way of material support.

I know that the amount has been put on the record already, and I know also that it is small indeed in terms of the astronomical figure devoted to armaments. It is also small indeed in terms of the need and necessity of these people, but it is not quite so small in terms of the practical results which can be accomplished in the early stages of this new international work. We have already had proof of that in our experience with the Colombo Plan. I do not think it is wrong to say that if we had contributed twice as much to the Colombo Plan in the first two years we would not have been able to effectively spend that total amount.

Having regard to those circumstances, the record shows that in the first 18 months of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance a total of \$20,070,000 was contributed by members of the United Nations. Canada contributed \$850,000. In 1952 the total was \$19,000,000, and our contribution was \$750,000. In 1953 the total amount went up to \$22,000,000 while our contribution went up to \$800,000. We have been trying to keep what we think is a fair relationship between our contribution and the total amount contributed by the United Nations.