

The Canadian Government has placed great stress on the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan. It was designed to enable 1,000 young graduates in various parts of the Commonwealth to undertake a two-year course in another Commonwealth nation. Canada is to provide for 250; our objective is 250 at all times studying here under this Commonwealth plan. Because this is a two-year course we had only some 101 during the past year but there will be an additional number coming in the fall, and we think that at the end of the present fiscal year there will be in Canada about 230 such students from other parts of the Commonwealth. I do not have the figure for the Canadians studying abroad under this scheme. It is not as large as the number coming here, but quite a significant number of young Canadians have benefited under the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan.

In addition we have initiated a special Commonwealth African Aid Programme which is to cost Canada \$10,500,000 spread over a period of three years. We have asked for a vote of \$3,500,000 for this particular work during the present fiscal year. The aid will go to independent members of the Commonwealth in Africa, and those who are approaching independence. Information on the needs of these countries is now being collected so that effective and useful programmes can be carried out. We believe that assistance in education will be one of the greatest needs, and already requests have been received for a number of teachers in various fields.

In this connection there has been a very interesting development in that the Province of Manitoba has decided to share in this work. In May of last year, Premier Roblin expressed a desire to co-operate with the Federal Government in providing teachers for under-developed Commonwealth countries. We welcomed his offer, and a project in Ceylon was suggested as a pilot scheme. Three instructors are required for an institute of technology in Ceylon and an arrangement has now been worked out with the Province of Manitoba under which it will recruit three teachers and pay their regular salaries amounting to \$30,000 and the Federal Government will provide transportation, overseas bonuses and living allowances, costing from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per year. This Federal Government share will be part of our regular Colombo Plan technical assistance programme. We believe this is a very helpful development and we will be interested in entering into similar schemes with any of the other provincial governments.

Another field is that of the French-speaking African states. At the United Nations most of these states became members last year. They are very much interested in Canada because we are a bilingual country. They feel they have a closer kinship with us than with countries where French is not one of the official languages. In this work the Hon. Member for Charlevoix (Mr. Asselin), who was one of our delegates, has been particularly helpful, as well as the parliamentary observers from the Province of Quebec. Their main task during this session has been to keep in touch with delegates