

Where one has special skills, those skills are made available to citizens of another, and there seems to be hope that this trend will develop. At the present moment it can be said that all of us working in the aid field—and this certainly applies to Canada's contribution—are endeavouring to assist these countries to be self-sustaining in food, and in this connection it is very encouraging to know that Indian food production in the last three years in food grains alone has gone up by more than 20 per cent. In manufacturing industries factories have increased their production by nearly 30 per cent. Seeing that many of the factories are processing agricultural products, much of this manufacturing progress too will find its way to the benefit of the poor peasant.

As all you gentlemen know, Pakistan is only 7½ years old, and I am always amazed at the progress it has made as a country in that very short time. Unfortunately, so far, they are dependent on two main crops for their balance of payment position—jute and cotton—neither of which have been any too healthy recently, with the result that Pakistan has had considerable financial difficulties to contend with. Also, she has run into political difficulties in the evolution of her new constitution, but in spite of these difficulties she is making progress. New mills have been built to process both her jute and cotton, new industries are springing up, all emphasizing the great need for additional power, which need Canada is helping to supply.

In all our Canadian Colombo Plan endeavour our task is to marry what Canada can best do most economically with what the various countries of South East Asia need. What they most need, of course, is food and as I said earlier, they are all working to increase their production and are achieving some success. But there is much more to the problem than relatively simple improvement in actual agricultural methods. The peasant farmer and the poor cultivator have to be given incentive—more return for his long hours of backbreaking work under the hot sun. The realization of this fact is leading these countries into the reorganization of their agricultural credit facilities—where any exist at all outside the rapacious village money lender—the building of cooperative movements (Canada has a cooperative expert in Ceylon running a school for teaching the operation of cooperatives), and, what is perhaps of still greater importance, the reorganization of land tenure and other agrarian reforms.

The advance being made varies considerably from country to country. Both in Pakistan and Ceylon, liberal land tenure arrangements have been worked out for refugee settlers which will make them land owners in time. It is perhaps in India, however, where the most spectacular things are being done in land tenure reform. In the Zamindari system (landlord tenure) and in Mahalwari (joint village tenure) many intermediaries helped to keep the peasant poor. These have now been abolished by law and cooperatives are taking their place. Much more Ryotwari (peasant proprietary tenure) is coming into being and virtually all new land is given out on that basis. But by far the most spectacular effort at land reform is India's "Bhoodan Yagna" movement (in English the "Land Gift" movement). Its head is a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi's. His name is Acharya Vinobha Bhave and he goes up and down the country persuading wealthy land owners to give away part of their land free to poor landless peasants. The amazing fact is that they do! He has collected over three million acres in land donations to his movement so far.

More and more we are finding the need for cooperation between the "Colombo Plan", the "United Nations", the "International Bank for Reconstruction and Development" and the United States' "Foreign Operations Administration" (once known as the Trueman Point Four Program and now once more about to change its name). This cooperation takes place, not only at the annual consultative committee meetings of the Colombo Plan but also at