

countries in Asia and of their contribution. I am among those who believe, and I repeat what I have said on earlier occasions, that here in Asia the Commonwealth has a vital appointment with destiny and I believe that to the degree to which we discharge our responsibilities here, the Commonwealth may expand and develop as never before, and our two countries have much in kind.

You mentioned the fact that we are composed of various races. It is only 115 years ago that a great British leader, Lord John Russell, stated that it would be impossible to maintain the British family of nations if at any time self-government were granted. Another great leader in the economic and political science field, John Stuart Mill, said it would be impossible to build a system of parliamentary government in any country unless that country was homogeneous and had only one language. Canada is the first of the confederations, Malaya the latest, but not the last in this family of nations. We have in common two particular facts: one is that each has its multiplicity, if I may use that expression, of races, different in religion; each has been able to bring together in a unity of common dedication, races, varying races, which in other parts of the world have not been able to achieve in the past that measure of peace which is our wish. In addition to this, we practise the same democracy. You speak the language that I understand. Only today you spoke that language of parliamentary democracy as I met with you. If there is one thing above all others in which we in Canada pay our tribute to you and your administration, and to the people of Malaya, it is in the fact that you have realized the danger of an authoritarianism that challenges in all parts of the world, and are maintaining the parliamentary system, freedom and all those things that flow from freedom and are here in Southeast Asia acting, as it were, as an experiment for other nations to see what can be achieved under our system of government and democracy. When you mentioned the Commonwealth as you did, I could but say that we talk again the same language.

Trade Relations

Only a few months ago in the city of Montreal, there was convened a Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference. Two of your representatives, Sir Henry Lee and Mr. Tan Siew Sin, were present, and they have given you some conception of the things that took place there. I was among those at the Prime Ministers' Conference in July 1957 who brought before that Conference the need for something to be done to bring about the achievement of expansion in two directions within the Commonwealth - one in the field of trade and the other in the field of economic assistance and development.

As far as trade is concerned, changes have taken place as a result of that Conference. The United Kingdom has demobilized in considerable measure those things that made trade between us