

The cumulative effect of such a reciprocal programme, carried on effectively for a number of years, would be that every question which might arise in another part of the Commonwealth could be discussed with sympathy, knowledge and understanding by someone in the other countries of the Commonwealth, who could interpret the special background and historic considerations which should be borne in mind in seeking to build a wider basis of co-operation and advancement. This would produce results of enormous advantage to everyone.

### Scope of Plan

It is possible that the importance of such a scholarship and fellowship plan may be obscured by reference to the numbers of students already seeking education outside their own countries. At present there are about thirty thousand students studying in Commonwealth countries other than their own. At first glance this might suggest that the new plan is somewhat limited in its scope. I hope there will be no misapprehension on this score. The plan will provide great possibilities of creating a better understanding within the Commonwealth and a strong foundation for co-operation in all fields of activity in the years to come. Most of those students now studying outside their own countries pay their tuition fees in the ordinary way. There are also a number of very generous scholarship arrangements. However, many of the countries which can gain most from such an exchange, are not able to send their young people to universities in the other countries and this valuable exchange of students, admirable though it may be, does not in most cases conform to the ideas of reciprocal exchange of studies and information to which we attach such great importance.

I should also emphasize that there is no thought of limiting the scope of co-operation and exchange of trained personnel to the numbers embraced in this scholarship plan. Already technical and other assistance is being provided with no relationship to any such plan. Programmes are now in operation under the Colombo Plan which not only assure the carrying out of specific development and construction projects but also furnish in themselves technical training to those living in the area where the work is carried out. The supply and training of teachers and of scientific and technical personnel, as well as the provision of equipment needed by less-developed members of the Commonwealth to create their own scientific and technical training centres, will be covered by the Colombo Plan and other voluntary co-operative programmes without reference to this scholarship plan and will be in no way limited by that plan.

It is not possible to state in advance what proportion of our human and material resources can be devoted to these purposes. However, I do assure you that we in Canada will at all times co-operate to the utmost of our ability in this field and seek to make available in every way we can any special advantage we may possess. At the same time, we shall hope to gain experience, understanding and a wider knowledge of other parts of the Commonwealth through these very activities. The exchange of ideas