

fellowships tenable in Canadian laboratories. These fellowships, which carry a stipend of \$3,000 per annum, are awarded strictly on merit, and there are no restrictions as to the nationality of the applicant. During the period since 1948, 488 of these fellowships have been awarded, of which 400 went to students from countries other than Canada. It is expected that this programme will be expanded during the coming year. It is true that a good many of the students holding fellowships work in fields not directly related to atomic energy, but the knowledge and experience they gain adds to the reservoir of scientific and engineering competence which is essential to any nation proposing to establish an atomic energy programme.

As the number of industrial and medical facilities in Canada making practical use of atomic energy increases, it will no doubt be possible to develop courses of instruction which will be useful to scientists, engineers and technicians from other countries. In fact the feasibility of establishing some such courses in the near future is now being studied, to supplement what we are already doing in the field of technical assistance through the Colombo Plan and under the United Nations Programme.

Possibly the first occasion to focus world-wide attention on the efforts of countries with the experience in atomic energy to speed the development of peaceful applications by making freely available the knowledge thus far acquired, will be the International Scientific Conference which it is proposed should be held in the summer of 1955. Canadian scientists are now preparing papers for this Conference which will contain information, particularly in the fields of uranium production and power reactor technology, which will be of value to scientists of other countries.

To avoid possible confusion I think I should reinforce the caution which has been given by the representatives of the United States and United Kingdom when they explained that it is not the intention of the eight countries now negotiating to set up the International Atomic Energy Agency that the International Scientific Conference should review or advise on the negotiations concerning the agency. This will be a large and important congress of scientists from all over the world -- perhaps a thousand or more. They will be meeting to discuss all aspects of the peaceful uses of atomic energy for about two weeks. Their ideas and suggestions will without doubt provide the International Atomic Energy Agency, when established, with a great deal of valuable material concerning the lines along which international co-operation could most fruitfully be developed. The conference, as we see it, however, will not be directly concerned in any way with the diplomatic negotiations for setting up the Agency. Indeed we would hope that plans for the Agency would already be well advanced by the time the conference meets.