

I am glad to say over the past year the Government has endeavoured to play an increasing part in helping underdeveloped countries. We have undertaken, subject to the approval of Parliament, to increase our contribution to the Colombo Plan from \$35 million to \$50 million a year for a period of three years beginning with the next fiscal year. We have also recognized the needs of emergent nations and territories in the Commonwealth which are not eligible for assistance under the Colombo Plan. I am thinking particularly of the African area. We are proposing to extend the benefits of our technical assistance programme to Commonwealth areas in that region.

We have embarked on a five-year programme of aid to the West Indies. This does not come under the Colombo Plan programme. A major part of our contribution of \$10 million will be used in the building of two steamships in Canada for inter-island service. These ships should represent to the West Indies what the building of the railroad meant to Canada in helping our nation to become more united.

I recall to the House that on July 25 last year the Prime Minister advocated that there should be an increase in the capital of the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund. That has come about and proposals will be placed before Parliament respecting Canada's subscriptions to these institutions which are allied with the United Nations for the purpose of helping underdeveloped countries.

There was established last year by the United Nations General Assembly a special fund to which Canada has promised to contribute \$2 million, subject to the approval of Parliament. The objective of the special fund will be to provide for surveys of natural resources, manpower, skills and industrial potentials, to the end that there can be established in many countries of the world a sound basis for economic growth.

There is one factor that I mention, not in a selfish mood, but when Canada makes a contribution of this kind, in a large measure the contribution in money is translated into Canadian goods and services which these countries need, for which they have asked. There is in this way a mutuality of interest, because our friends can be helped and our own economy sustained.

Relations With Communist China

I have been discussing the Colombo Plan, Mr. Speaker, which forms one of the particularly productive bridges of friendship between Canada and our friends in South and South-East Asia. It is a trend of thought which inevitably brings me to the less happy and less satisfactory relationships which