

interests in the area. While your Committee recognizes that Canada's foreign policy is closely associated with the policies of the United Nations it does not necessarily follow that expenditures for relief and particularly commitments of a continuing nature should be made in a specific area without first determining whether funds might be put to better use in programs of rehabilitation. Your Committee recommends that further study be given to programs requiring expenditures of this kind. The Committee is hopeful that initiative may be taken toward a solution of this refugee problem.

With regard to the Colombo Plan, your Committee feels that a great deal more can be done to inform the Canadian Public of the use made of Colombo Plan funds abroad, and of the procurement of services and Canadian-made goods for shipment to Colombo Plan countries. While it is appreciated that a certain amount of planning toward this end is now going on in the Economic and Technical Assistance Administration Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce, your Committee is of the opinion that an immediate start should be made on the formation of an Information Service within the Administration. This could probably be accomplished by the employment of an Information Officer and the utilization of Information facilities existing in the Department.

Your Committee learned that there were still many properties occupied by the Department abroad as Embassies, Consulates and Chanceries on a lease basis. In view of the reciprocal arrangements relating to the freedom from taxation of property owned by foreign missions and the fact that property values in many parts of the world have continued to appreciate since the conclusion of World War II, not to mention the periodic difficulties encountered in attempting to re-negotiate leases, it is apparent that additional emphasis placed on a program of property acquisition would, over a long term, result in a considerable saving of Public Funds.

As recommended in its Report presented to the House on Wednesday, August 20, 1958 your Committee was enabled to commence its sittings within one month of the beginning of this Session and this has greatly contributed to the orderly and efficient manner in which it has conducted its deliberations. It urges that its work may be scheduled in a similar manner at future Sessions.

A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence is appended.

Respectfully submitted,

H. O. WHITE,
Chairman.