

find its way to other research institutions and other areas of Canada. This is as it should be. Personally, I should not want to see the establishment of an organization which is too strongly orientated toward the universities. In the past we have depended to a large degree upon university staffs for research, ignoring the fact that we have a wealth of scientific knowledge and experience at our disposal in industry and in many of the Crown corporations of Canada—a wealth of scientific staff who are not directly concerned with education in universities.

● (5:00 p.m.)

In this regard I can think of several, including Atomic Energy of Canada. We also have federal forest research stations across Canada. I am sure much can be done, for example in tree genetics, to assist some of the developing countries.

Last September when a group of us visited South America to participate in the Interparliamentary Conference at Lima, Peru, we were told that in various parts of Peru scientists had discovered several species of wood hitherto unknown. I agree with an earlier speaker in this debate who said that South America is certainly one place where a great deal of emphasis should be placed on assistance. It is only by helping people to help themselves that we are going to cure the social ills of other countries. Countries like the United States and other industrialized nations, regardless of financial wealth, cannot hope to provide all of the information and educational facilities required to assist the underdeveloped nations; the only way we can assist them is to help them to help themselves. This we can do through research programs of this type.

The humanitarian aspects of this bill have been mentioned and they are indeed very important. I think anyone who has visited South America and other countries of the world, where there is poverty, will realize that through research we can better their conditions. We must give these countries a plan and the trained personnel to solve their problems, and it is for this purpose that we require financial resources. In proceeding in this way and reaching solutions of this kind, we will be spending our money wisely.

In the Middle Ages scientists in the world did not gather together very often. Only recently have the best scientists of Europe and North America gathered together at the international level. In the old days scientists

International Development Research Centre

jealously guarded their knowledge; today the results of research in one country is almost straight-away passed on to scientists of other nations. This is one of the main purposes of this bill, and it would not be possible to put a bill like this into operation were this not the case.

This bill also breaks new ground in the field of international affairs by making provision for people from other developing countries of the world to sit on the board of governors. I think this is an excellent road on which to start out. While the majority of the board of governors will be Canadians, which I think is only right since Canada is providing the program, it is interesting to note that finally we are permitting people from other countries, who know their own problems first-hand, to sit on the board of governors of the International Development Research Centre of Canada. This is a step that will make the research program more effective. We will know the problems we have to face, the solutions we must work toward, and we will know the local conditions within which they must be applied.

I was pleased to hear the minister state in his speech that \$30 million would be directed toward this plan over the first five years of operation. Although much of this \$30 million is going to be spent in Canada, the nations we are assisting directly, with the balance of this money, will still benefit from this expenditure in Canada. This is a joint agreement. It is a plan whereby we will be solving our own problems both industrially and economically as well as solving similar problems in other countries.

I was astounded to learn that in the past only \$1 out of every \$200—I believe that is the correct figure one-half of one per cent—that was spent on foreign aid, has been directed toward foreign research aid programs. I think we have now come to realize that we could not continue to spend so little on research because we do not know whether our foreign aid program is being properly directed, and is actually solving problems in recipient countries. In fact, there have been times when past governments of Canada have not looked very seriously at this question of finding out how much good has been done by money spent in developing countries.

This bill starts us off on a new and very enlightened approach. Not only will we obtain first hand knowledge of problems existing in developing countries as a result of close relations with the representatives of other nations