

down even over trivial matters and even if they know they are wrong. I'm not going to suggest how to get around this problem of face, but I'm fairly certain that once you know it is likely to crop up it is well worth-while trying to find a way to prevent it. It may sound petty, but to the man who feels he is about to lose face it is something of mystical importance.

You may think that I am getting a bit off-beam but remember that the human consequences of the changing industrial environment are brought about just as often by a misunderstanding of human nature as they are by technological developments. Change in itself is inevitable. What matters is the emotional reaction to change by individuals affected by it.

This Conference brings together people from widely different industrial, agricultural and cultural backgrounds. One of the great problems of the world today is the obvious extremes of wealth and poverty between nations. This is known and recognised to be undesirable, but there is no quick and easy way of closing the gap. However, it seems to me that as members of the Commonwealth we are in a much better position to work at this problem.

Inter-Commonwealth cooperation and assistance cannot be construed as economic imperialism or prompted by political motives, in fact it goes a long way to overcome xenophobia and the restrictions of nationalism. Here we have an organisation which makes it humanly possible to work directly at common economic problems and I believe that we should use the opportunity, indeed it would be inexcusable negligence to pass up a chance like this. I'm not suggesting that this Conference should do anything about this problem, but