

*Supply—External Affairs*

even be in surplus supply in our own country, which would help other countries. For example our flour mills have been working at high speed for the last year to meet Russian orders for flour. It does not appear that this will be the case for this crop year. The Barbados for many years have taken around 20 million pounds of flour from Canada annually, so I am quite sure that the West Indies generally could use gifts of this commodity to help their people.

It would also be possible for us to provide countries with technical assistance. Some of this we already do. We could give additional aid in the supply of teachers, as mentioned by the last speaker, particularly along the line of C.U.S.O. I think this kind of aid should be expanded a great deal. There is no better way of successfully aiding people or a nation than to help them to help themselves. This is something our technical assistants do very well.

In this connection I should like to refer to the very valuable work which is being done by Canadian university service overseas. I am happy to see that the representations made by the member for Royal in his resolution of June 10, 1963, and to which I had the honour of speaking, has been so generously supported by the minister for external affairs. It is possible too that in some very limited instances more direct financial aid might be given. I am inclined to think, however, that this aid would require very careful supervision.

In this connection I have a letter from a friend of mine, who was until recently in one of the aid countries, in which he emphasizes that point. While I dislike to waste the time of the committee there are a few points in this letter I think should be emphasized. He says:

We will never get used to the terrible squalor of the lives of 50 per cent of the Jamaicans, in contrast to the extravagance of the middle class, millionaires, civil servants and the government.

Then he goes on to state:

The *Gleaner* newspaper, today, Sunday, April 6, 1964, speaks of £22,000 (\$66,000) to be spent on interior decorating. A lady from Canada married to a Jamaican, is flying around the world to pick up objets d'art for the P.M.'s house.

Remember, Jamaica is an emerging country of 1,700,000 people and yet, while schools are poverty stricken, the P.M. gets a new \$330,000 palace.

Then he goes on to state:

When P.M. Bustamante spends \$9,000 on his 80th birthday party, it simply means that \$9,000 of Canadian and American money has gone. Cobbla youth camp received £75,000 (\$225,000) of equipment from Canada's external aid office. This of

[Mr. Cantelon.]

course frees Jamaican money that government officials can use for travel, expensive government buildings, government limousines and expensive houses, etc. for Jamaican high commissioners around the globe. Why does a country of 1,700,000 people have to have an embassy in all countries, when many nations such as Sweden can't afford it.

The final quotation I should like to refer to reads as follows:

Did you know that all civil servants get a full year's holiday every ten, with full pay, and transportation first class to Britain or its equivalent. This is a heritage from colonial days.

I am sure our civil servants would like the same sort of treatment. Finally we might give credit so that many of these countries would have a development fund to which, at a low rate of interest, say 4 or 4½ per cent, they might turn for assistance when they might wish to finance industrial development.

Having made these general remarks I would like more specifically to discuss our aid to the West Indies. I do so because this is an area in the world which is peculiarly fitted to receive aid from Canada. There are many things which bind us together. While I have never had the good fortune to visit the West Indies it is rapidly becoming one of the major winter vacation grounds for many people in eastern and central Canada. These visits have acquainted many Canadians with the life of the West Indians. So far as I can judge, the relations between these visitors and the people of the West Indies have been cordial. There is also the fact that our economies are complementary. Many things which we cannot do in Canada, because we live in the north temperate zone, can be done in the West Indies, because these islands are in the tropics. Then too it is easy to communicate with them because they have a common language and all speak one of our national languages. It would be fair too to say that they have the same heritage of respect for common law that we have.

Canada has been increasing her exports to the Caribbean area both in volume and in value, but this trade, however, has tended in recent years to become more one-sided, because we sell to them much more than we buy. For example, in 1950 the Barbados sold over 50 million West Indian dollars worth of produce to Canada. In 1962 Canada bought only \$4.8 million worth from that area. So trading is mainly in one direction. Even the rum exporting business has seriously declined, a rather strange decline since our imports from Britain of this product have grown enormously. The Caribbean is somewhat bitter about this, and with reason. The point then that I want to make is that with complemen-