

We have the human resources — abundant human resources. Each year, for example, thousands of overseas students in our Canadian universities demonstrate their ability and their determination to apply their broader knowledge to the problems of their native lands. Given the capital and the tools, there is no doubt that they can do the job.

For the first time in history we have the potential to solve this age-old problem. But we have to generate the will to use those skills to the benefit of mankind.

We are told that social changes are required, but that these must evolve gradually. We know that centuries-old systems of land-use do not always produce the greatest benefit from the land but that old methods of farming, which have served generations, cannot be altered overnight to suit the dictates of an alien science.

But surely, in facing the disastrous consequences of continued hunger, more devastating in its effect than the mushroom cloud of a nuclear explosion, surely we must become impatient — surely we must demand an end to the apathy which acts as a brake on human progress.

LEADERSHIP ESSENTIAL

Leadership is the essential ingredient. Only men and women charged with the urgency of the situation can give the inspiration and direction which will lead us away from hunger and sickness to plenty and health. Those not prepared to meet the challenge of development are not fit to be in positions of responsibility. Leaders must have the foresight and wisdom — not only to deal with recurrent emergencies but to lead their people to solve the central problem of our time.

The dimensions of the world food crisis may not strike the public as being as dramatic as the threat of war. The average citizen, saturated with statistical data, finds it hard to become excited about things which may happen in 50, ten or even five years' time. But hunger and its companion ills cannot be ignored. They are breeding, today, the crises and conflicts that could face each one of us tomorrow.

A continued imbalance between the affluent societies and those who never have enough to eat places great strains on a world already subject to dangerous pressures. If we are to ease those strains, we must act decisively and wisely before present opportunities are lost.

CANADA'S ROLE

In Canada, we are preparing ourselves for the role which we must play as a great agricultural nation. We have made major contributions to the world's food shortages — we gave more than \$100 million in wheat last year and pledged 10 per cent of the resources of the World Food Programme.

This year, we have some 60 agricultural advisers abroad in 17 different countries — practical men, applying themselves to practical problems. They are developing new rust-resistant strains of wheat in Kenya; helping to fight rinderpest disease in West and Central Africa; and helping to establish new

pasture land in Korea and new agricultural education facilities in Thailand. Other Canadians, sponsored by non-governmental organizations, are helping to drill for water in the famine-stricken areas of India and are taking part in the Asian drive against food losses through vermin and rot.

Our capital-assistance projects bearing on agricultural or fisheries development in 20 countries total almost \$15 million. Apart from our food-aid programme, we plan to ship overseas in 1967 and 1968 more than \$22-million worth of fertilizer and fertilizer components.

MORE TO BE DONE

But we know that this is only a part answer to the long-term problems of agricultural insufficiency. There is much more to be done.

In concert with others, we must provide the schools and cultural institutions that make rural life rewarding for young men and women with ambition and spirit. We must make sure that when the land is ready, machinery, fertilizer, seed and stock are available — that techniques and skills are transferred in time.

We must go further. In co-operation with others we hope to achieve advances in international commodity price agreements and the arrangement of markets to provide improved access for the primary products of less-developed nations. The individual farmer must have the assurance of a reasonable return on his industry and investment....

FARM SPECIALISTS TO INDIA

Our aid programme in Canada is being reshaped to meet this challenge. Despite the improvements in communications and the close relations which Canada has had with its partners in development, not enough is known about the way in which our special experience and capacities can be wedded to overseas need. We are moving to remedy this situation. Next month, we shall send a team of Canadian agricultural specialists to India. Their assignment is to define areas in which Canada, with its specific skills, experience and products, can mount better programmes of assistance. It is our hope that other nations may follow our lead and that those who require assistance will welcome this initiative....

SCIENCE AWARD FROM FRANCE

Dr. John P. Tully, of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, has been awarded the 1967 Medal Commemorative of Prince Albert I of Monaco (Manley-Bendall prize) by the Committee for Advancement of the Oceanographic Institute of France. This is the first time a Canadian scientist has received this award, which is an acknowledgement of outstanding achievement in physical or biological oceanography and was first presented in 1948.