Technical Assistance

In the field of technical assistance, more than 500 foreign students are now pursuing studies in Canada under bilateral or multilateral technical assistance programmes. Of these 75 come from non-self-governing territories.

Scholarships

A word about scholarships. Under its Commonwealth and External Aid Programmes, Canada offers each year 250 to 300 scholarships which are open to all Commonwealth countries, including non-self-governing territories. The scholarships do not differ in value except that students coming to Canada under the Commonwealth programme may bring their wives, for whom the Canadian Government pays two-thirds of the travel expenses to Canada and return plus a monthly marriage allowance of $50.00.

These figures give only part of the story. The Canadian share in the way of direct aid and encouragement for the educational advance of peoples in dependent territories is best shown by the total number of students from all non-self-governing territories seeking higher education in Canada. In the year 1960-61 there were 50 students from non-self-governing territories studying in Canada.

West Indies

Of those students studying in Canada, a considerable number have come from The West Indies. Dr. Springer, in his appearance before this Committee, was kind enough to refer to the aid which we have given towards the development of the University of The West Indies. As an example, the Canadian Government has approved a project for the construction of a residence at the University of The West Indies in Trinidad, at a cost of $200,000. We have also provided the staff of the University with three professors as teacher-trainers. Two have now completed their tour of duty; one is still with the University and a fourth will be leaving for the West Indies next month.

Under the Canadian Government's West Indies Aid programme, announced in 1958, $10 million is being spent on economic and technical assistance to the West Indies over a five-year period to assist and accelerate economic development. This covers such projects as the provision of ships for inter-island traffic, the construction of docks and warehouse facilities, and natural resources surveys. We hope in all these ways to contribute something towards the future economic and educational development of a prosperous and independent West Indies.