

also devoted to the problem of assisting the economic advancement of less-developed areas. In this connection information on Canada's part in the Colombo Plan and in Commonwealth technical assistance is given in Subsection 4, pp. 169-170.

The Conference recognized that the provision of extended educational and training facilities was an essential condition of the economic development of the Commonwealth. Agreement was reached in principle on the initiation of a new scheme of Commonwealth scholarships and fellowships, under which it is intended that in due course a thousand Commonwealth scholars and fellows should be studying in other Commonwealth countries at any one time. Of these, some 250 will be studying in Canada. This initiative was followed up at a Commonwealth Conference on Education held at Oxford in the summer of 1959.

The latest countries to reach full membership in the Commonwealth are Ghana and the Federation of Malaya—in March and August, respectively, of 1957. To both countries Canada has appointed High Commissioners, as well as to the West Indies Federation. Nigeria has progressed rapidly towards independence, an event scheduled for Oct. 1, 1960; with a population of some 35,000,000 it will be the largest single country in Africa. Nigerian leaders made it known that they hoped their country would remain associated with the Commonwealth after independence. The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced in July 1959 that Canada intended to open a diplomatic mission in Lagos, Nigeria, at an early date. He indicated at the same time that it is the Government's intention to open a diplomatic mission in Salisbury, the capital of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, as soon as circumstances permit.

Perhaps the most extensive visit to other Commonwealth countries by a Commonwealth leader during this period was undertaken by Prime Minister Diefenbaker in the autumn of 1958. After a short stop at New York, the Prime Minister spent a week in the United Kingdom where he had useful talks with Prime Minister Macmillan. He made brief visits in France, Germany and Italy and to the Canadian Armed Forces in Europe. Official visits followed to Pakistan, India, Ceylon, the Federation of Malaya, Australia and New Zealand, with brief stops in Singapore and Indonesia. The Prime Minister, who was accompanied by Mrs. Diefenbaker, was welcomed in each Commonwealth country by its Prime Minister. In speeches and at press conferences he repeatedly expressed his belief in the vitality of the Commonwealth and in the importance of its role in the world.

Canada received a number of distinguished Commonwealth visitors: the Prime Minister of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah; the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, Mr. Walter Nash; the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. R. G. Menzies, and the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. R. G. Casey; the Governor General of the West Indies Federation, Lord Hailes, and the Prime Minister, Sir Grantley Adams; the Minister of Finance of Pakistan, the Chief Justice of Nigeria, and many others. Visitors from the United Kingdom included the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Macmillan, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, and the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, Lord Home.

Subsection 2.—Canada and the United Nations

Apart from the appeal of Laos concerning alleged military aggression by North Viet Nam, the United Nations in 1959 had a respite from the recurrent international crises which had confronted the organization during the previous two years. The United Nations, however, continued its work of maintaining peace in sensitive areas, notably through the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF). A new political issue, Communist China's repression in Tibet, came before the United Nations but the subjects receiving greatest attention at the fourteenth session of the General Assembly concerned disarmament and related problems.