

Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, has made it clear that his country attaches great importance to its Commonwealth membership. The Minister of Finance represented Canada at the Independence Day celebrations in Lagos. Canada is represented in Nigeria on a permanent basis by a High Commissioner whose office was opened early in 1960.

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Scheme began to operate during 1960. This scheme is the result of a decision taken at the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference held at Montreal in 1958. Details were worked out at the Commonwealth Conference on Education at Oxford in 1959. More than 100 Commonwealth Scholars from many different Commonwealth countries are now studying at Canadian universities. It is expected that Canada will ultimately be awarding 250 of these scholarships each year, and that a total of 1,000 Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, including Canadians, will be studying in other Commonwealth countries in any one year. This scheme will assist the newly independent Commonwealth States in a most important way and should do much to strengthen Commonwealth ties.

Canada welcomed several distinguished Commonwealth visitors during the latter half of 1959 and 1960, including Mr. R. G. Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia; Tunku Abdul Rahman, Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya; Sir Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto and Premier of the Northern Region of Nigeria; and Lord Kilmuir, Lord Chancellor of the United Kingdom.

Subsection 2.—Canada and the United Nations

At the beginning of 1960, the members of the United Nations held a reasonable expectation that improved East-West relations would be reflected in progress in the United Nations along lines foreshadowed at the General Assembly in 1959. However, their expectations were dissipated by the failure of the Summit meeting in May, the consequent departure of the Soviet Bloc from the Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee in June, and the crisis in the Congo which continued throughout the second half of 1960.

These factors, together with the prospect of a change in administration in the United States, combined to make the 15th regular session of the General Assembly one of the least productive in the history of the United Nations. The session, which convened in September as usual, was unique in that it began with an *ad hoc* meeting of Heads of Government, which was marked by Mr. Khrushchov's strong attack on the Secretary-General and on the structure of the Secretariat. Of the issues facing the 15th session, Canada was particularly interested in the question of arrangements to implement the concepts of an international "food bank" and an international "experts' bank"; the possibility of an expansion of the Security and the Economic and Social Councils in the light of increases in the membership of the United Nations; and in the problem of mustering adequate financial and political support for the United Nations operations in the Congo. In the field of disarmament, Canada pursued an initiative taken at a meeting of the Disarmament Commission in August by continuing to press for the earliest possible resumption of disarmament negotiations, and suggested, among other things, machinery designed to give the middle and smaller powers particularly an opportunity to contribute to the encouragement of disarmament negotiations. The Assembly found itself unable to complete its business in the normal way and adjourned on Dec. 20 after a decision to resume its work on Mar. 7, 1961.

Although it had been strengthened towards the close of 1960 by the addition of 17 new members, mainly from Africa, the United Nations found itself unable to make progress in any important direction. At the end of the year, the effectiveness and the future of United Nations operations in the Congo remained in doubt; the organization's working procedures and certain aspects of its basic structure stood in need of thoughtful review, particularly in the light of increases in membership; its financial position continued to give cause for grave concern; it had proved unable to take positive action to bring about the resumption of East-West contacts either at the Summit or in the field of disarmament;