

Three hundred men and women from all parts of the Commonwealth will be in Canada from May 13 to June 6 to take part in H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh's Second Commonwealth Study Conference.

Their formal hosts are the Canadian industrial and business firms and labour organizations which have contributed towards planning, organizing and financing the Conference. In a very real sense, however, the members are the guests of all Canadians, and especially the many thousands of people in scores of communities from coast to coast who will have the opportunity to meet them and to make them welcome.

The Conference members, nine of whom are women, represent a cross-section of the races, colours and creeds of the 700 million human beings in the British Commonwealth of Nations. They are mainly in the 25 to 45 year age group, and have been selected by committees in their respective countries as being persons who are likely in the future to assume senior responsibility and leadership in industrial management or labour organizations. Many are identified with industrial concerns or trades unions, but they are not delegates from any association. They attend the Conference as individuals, representing only themselves.

Thirty-five countries and territories are represented: Aden, Antigua, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Brunei, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaya, Malta G.C., Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, St. Kitt's, St. Lucia, Sarawak, Sierra Leone, Tanganyika, Trinidad, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

As the host country, Canada has the largest representation. Twenty of the 80 Canadians are acting as Conference Study Group Leaders. Other countries with relatively large representation are the United Kingdom, Australia, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Nigeria, India, New Zealand, the Caribbean islands, and Ghana. About three-fifths of the members are associated with industrial management and the remainder are from labour organizations.

Prince Philip gave inspiration and leadership to a somewhat similar Conference held at Oxford, England, in 1956. The 29 Canadians who took part on that occasion felt they got so much of value from the study that a second event of the kind should be held, preferably in Canada, and with an entirely new group of members.

The idea was put to representatives of Canadian industry and labour organizations, who agreed to undertake organization and financing of the 1962 Conference. During the Canadian tour of Her Majesty The Queen and Prince Philip in June, 1959, His Royal Highness consented to act as President, as he had in 1956. Prince Philip has been active in every stage of the planning and is taking part personally in Conference events in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver. It is not possible for him to visit the many communities on the Study Tours schedule.

The purpose of the Second Commonwealth Conference is to study the human consequences of the changing industrial environment in the Commonwealth and Empire.

Prince Philip has stated the objective in these terms:

*"For generations communities have simply grown and developed naturally or remained static, but since the*

*advent of industry as the main wealth-producing element to human existence, man has had to create communities and to plan their development.*

*"The purpose of this Conference is simply to help some of the people who might one day have this responsibility for planning and developing these communities to exercise it to the general benefit of humanity.*

*"I am particularly delighted that the Conference is being held in Canada, because Canada has a wonderful variety of industrial communities and each has some lessons to teach."*

In no sense is this an "industrial relations" Conference. Such matters as wages, hours of work, and conditions of employment are of interest to the members only in their general relationship to the basic theme.

The study will focus mainly upon the manner in which people and communities adapt to industrial change. How, for example, does a community take shape around a giant new mining operation in some remote part of the country? What happens to a community and its people when a major industry doubles or triples its capacity or, conversely, when a major source of employment dwindles or disappears because of economic conditions?

During their stay in Canada the Conference members will see virtually every phase of industrial activity, and will have informal talks with people in every walk of life. They are particularly interested in chatting with representatives of management and labour, civic authorities, leaders in various cultural, recreational, ethnic and youth movements, senior citizens, and workers and their families.

Opportunity is being offered on a number of occasions for the Conference members to spend a few hours in a typical Canadian home, to learn