

### Towards a new equilibrium

*The following is the text of a new year's message from Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau:*

The year 1975, with all its happy and unhappy events, has just become history, and we stand on the threshold of a new year. The wishes and greetings we exchange at this time, the resolutions that we make, are traditions whose original meaning we sometimes neglect. In fact, they precede a profound renewal of all nature which, dormant through the long winter, is already preparing for the coming spring. We have only to look closely at this natural phenomenon to see in it not just a symbol, but the occasion of true regeneration. We find it an easy matter to wish the best to relatives and friends, but what shall we, as citizens of this country, wish for each other? What shall we hope to achieve together this year? In what new directions shall we move?

Let's face the fact: these are not easy times. The great majority of industrialized countries are suffering the fluctuations and uncertainties of a prolonged economic crisis, to say nothing of social and cultural tensions. Group pressures and citizens' demands are growing, creating a formidable strain on governments and forcing them, usually against their will, to counter with universal economic controls and authoritarianism. Although we have not yet arrived at that stage in Canada, it would be presumptuous to think that we are immune to such dangers.

Because Canada is a young country with vast dimensions and plentiful resources, we can contemplate the future with more optimism than many other countries. We must take care, however, not to let this optimism blind us to reality. That is why, on this first day of the year, I want to invite you to join with me in seeking the foundations of a new equilibrium. The abundance of consumer goods available to us often leads us to abuse or waste. It raises our expectations and leads to many forms of imbalance which adversely affect our physical and mental health, as well as our natural environment and our social and economic structures.

The time has come when we must adopt a new lifestyle. We are being forced to do this not merely by our

own economic situation, but by the world-wide evolution of mankind. After 10,000 years of agriculture and barely two centuries of industrialization, we find ourselves faced with a different kind of society. The personal and collective equilibrium we must seek, in order to adapt to this new era, will not last unless it is based on a fundamental change in attitude. As an American philosopher once said, "lives based on having are less free than lives based either on doing or being".

It is this sort of change that I propose to you today. Instead of competing with each other to take more and more out of the economy without concern for what we put into it, instead of expecting the Government to provide everything and thinking more of our rights than of our duties, let us resolve that this year we shall do more and be better, each one of us in his own field of endeavour. In the hope that these few ideas will generate a spirit of renewal, I wish all of you a happy new year.

### Canada/Japan fish protection research

New arrangements to protect halibut in the Eastern Bering Sea were announced last month by Roméo LeBlanc, Minister of State for Fisheries.

The arrangements were agreed upon by Canadian, United States and Japanese delegates to the recent annual meeting of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission in Vancouver, B.C. They include a continuation of a total closure to Japanese trawlers from December 1, 1975 to May 15, 1976 in areas of the southeast Bering Sea (off the southwest coast of Alaska), where rates of capture of halibut is high, compared to other species.

"The results of the total closure to Japanese trawlers in 1974 and 1975 are encouraging," said Mr. LeBlanc, "although scientists from the International Pacific Halibut Commission stress that halibut stocks remain at a low level and require continued protection. There is also a need to increase research efforts on the effects of trawling on halibut, and the new arrangements will contribute to this need."

Under the terms of the agreement, Japan will be permitted to operate two

pairs of vessels in a small area of the Bering Sea for parts of the period between January 1 and May 15, 1976. One vessel in each pair will use a conventional trawl net, the other will use a new experimental off-bottom net, in order to compare results.

"Canada will be providing observers on the Japanese vessels to look at the experimental operation and help judge its effectiveness," said Mr. LeBlanc. "I am extremely encouraged by Japan's continuing desire to protect halibut, and Canadian scientists will be making a careful analysis of the results of the experiment."

### Queen's honour for Mr. Diefenbaker

Former Prime Minister of Canada (1957 to 1963), John G. Diefenbaker, was appointed a Companion of Honour in the 1976 New Year Honours List by Queen Elizabeth. Only the Queen and 65 others hold the honour, which is bestowed by the Queen herself after consulting with the British Government and the governments of the Commonwealth countries. It is given in recognition of conspicuous national service.

Sir Winston Churchill, Clement Atlee, former British Prime Ministers, Graham Greene, novelist, and Henry Moore, sculptor, are among others who received the Companion of Honour in the past.

Other Canadians holding it are Dr. Charles Best, the co-discoverer of insulin, and Professor Arnold Smith, former Commonwealth Secretary-General.

Some holders of Companions of Honour subsequently received the



John G. Diefenbaker