



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 62/5

## CANADA'S TRADE IN A CHANGING WORLD

Speech by Mr. Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, to the Canadian Club of Winnipeg on January 19, 1962.

... As the centre of Canada's grain industry and the gateway to our great Western provinces, which, as much as any area in the world, live by trade, Winnipeg has always had a deep-rooted and lively interest in matters of international commerce. I propose, therefore, to speak to you today about some of the major trade issues now confronting Canada and, indeed, the world.

Canada has what has been called an "exposed" economy. More than other countries, we are profoundly affected by international economic developments. In volume we rank fourth among the great trading nations of the world and, on a per capita basis, first. It should surprise no one, therefore, that the developments now occurring in Europe, the emergence of the European Economic Community and the possibility that the United Kingdom may join it, have aroused such deep interest in Canada. Hardly a day passes without some reference in the press and elsewhere to the great issues which face us in relation to these far-reaching changes in Europe. Many debates occur on how we can meet the challenges and seize the opportunities which they offer and, at the same time, avoid the dangers which they may involve.

### Confusion of Issues

Unfortunately, some contributions to this discussion have not always been factual, objective and constructive. This has led to muddying of the waters and some confusion of the issues. I should like to take this opportunity which you have so kindly offered me today to endeavour to clarify the situation.

Let me speak plainly. It has been alleged in some quarters that Canada has somehow shown hostility towards the United Kingdom in connection with their negotiations for accession to the European Common Market. I would like to say now, clearly, emphatically and without equivocation, that such charges are completely and utterly devoid of any foundation in truth. At no