

are threatened with United States import restrictions. It is true that during the last twenty years Canadian production has become much more diversified. But it is also true that our foreign trade is still largely made up of the export of a comparatively few staple commodities. Our principal exports are still wheat, newsprint, lumber, non-ferrous metals; and we hope that before long iron ore and petroleum and natural gas will be added to that list. The economic development that has been taking place in Canada will be a success for those who have helped to finance it - and for Canada - only if reliable markets can be found, particularly in the United States, for the natural resources that are now being exploited. For that reason, those of you who have invested in Canada have a common interest with Canadians. The dollars you have sent across the border will be able to do their work only if Canada can continue to trade freely with the United States. Whether or not Americans realize it, they have acquired an important stake in the future of Canada's foreign trade.

During the past year we in Canada have been disturbed by the restrictions that have been imposed by the United States against some of our exports and by the clamour there has been for even further restrictions. So far, the only commodities to be affected have been certain of our agricultural exports. But other commodities seem threatened. In the light of the decision announced on the 20th of August, for example, the future market in the United States for Canadian lead and zinc remains uncertain. As you know, there has also been difficulty in making arrangements to export to this country the natural gas that is becoming available as our oilfields are opened up. I know and acknowledge what efforts have been made by your government to avoid restrictions on Canadian imports and to mitigate the consequences for Canada's trade when new restrictions were held to be unavoidable. Nevertheless, the increasing difficulties that we have experienced in trying to sell Canadian commodities in this country inevitably cause us great concern.

These developments have been more disturbing at a time when we had hoped that the United States would be able to take some action to bring its commercial policy more into accord with its position as the world's strongest creditor. We fully appreciated that some time would be needed for these issues to be debated and we understood the reasons why yet another Commission should be appointed to consider them. When the Commission on Foreign Economic Policy submitted its recommendations to the President, we thought that these constituted a move in the right direction and hoped that they would be implemented without delay. We now earnestly trust that some progress will be made at the forthcoming session of Congress to translate them into law. If the event proves otherwise, there will be further disappointment - and I fear pretty wide disillusionment - in my country.

It seems to me that the need for action has been made more imperative by changing circumstances. For the time being, the situation favours a broad movement towards the restoration of a free and multilateral