

Our two-way talks with the U.S. will in no way inhibit trading relations with our other partners in the hemisphere and around the world.

Nearly eighty per cent of our exports, some \$95 billion last year, was with the United States. Our imports from the United States, nearly \$75 billion last year, represented some 72% of all canadian imports. That two-way trading relationship, nearly \$170 billion a year, is the biggest in the world.

Whatever occurs between the world's largest trading partners, with a view to elimination of protectionist measures and reducing tariff and non-tariff trading barriers, is bound to have beneficial results for our other trading partners. We are not only a nation of free traders, we are a nation of fair traders.

We put the concerns of the agricultural sector on the agenda of the Tokyo Summit last May.

We're particularly concerned about the effects on farmers, throughout the hemisphere no less than in Canada, of the spreading agriculture subsidy war between the U.S. and the European Community.

In the Summit Group of Seven Nations, as in the G-7 group of Finance Ministers, in the IMF and the Paris Club, Canada is sympathetic to the concerns of our Latin American partners for a flexible approach to the problems of debt and development.

We know that management of the debt issue is the most daunting challenge facing many Latin American governments.

We know that Latin America's debt burden can be alleviated only through the kind of stabilization and non-inflationary growth we are beginning to see in Brazil and Argentina.