

is becoming increasingly difficult for democratic institutions to withstand these pressures. There is a strong perception that our market in Canada is more open than are certain foreign markets to Canadian suppliers.

Trade by itself and a mere rhetorical commitment to a strengthened trading system will certainly not turn matters around. But neither will protectionist measures. That route has been tried half a century ago and demonstrated all too vividly its inherent flaw.

We look forward to a speedy recovery of the USA economy, one which will offer dividends for all represented here. I am encouraged, Mr. Chairman, by the manner in which fundamental questions on fiscal and monetary policies were addressed by our Treasury and Finance Ministers in the earlier debate. A greater convergence of view and closer coordination of policy on macro-economic issues is essential to an improvement in and expansion of our multilateral trading system. In that sense I particularly welcome the Secretary General's report and his specific proposals on trade issues for the 1980's and see these as an important framework for attention and detailed study. This report highlights the important linkages between trade and macro-economic policies. It illustrates as well the beneficial impact on trade of effective adjustment policies by individual countries.

I am pleased to endorse these proposals, Mr. Chairman, and the unique contribution of the OECD in enhancing our capacity to persevere and manage our problems together. In a period of deep uncertainty and concern the OECD has a special responsibility to analyse the challenges ahead and provide clear prescriptions. Relevance is the watchword. I am confident that the excellent tools and talents at the disposal of the OECD can respond and stimulate support from those elements of our societies - political, business, labour and our public - which have a vital stake in a strengthened trading system.

From a Canadian perspective we have particular concerns, on which we look to the OECD and the GATT for complementary action in the months ahead.