

Both Canada and Japan are major trading nations. There are natural areas of co-operation between our two countries. In technology, for example, there is much to gain through bilateral co-operation. As a matter of fact, at the Canada-Japan Ministerial Meeting in September, it was agreed that a Canadian science and technology mission would visit Japan in 1972. Plans are proceeding for this mission.

Foreign investment also offers opportunities. For our part, we welcome Japanese investment in Canada, particularly where this investment is directed towards new enterprises. As you may be aware, the matter of foreign investment in Canada has been under Government review. While a policy statement has yet to be made, you can expect that it will not be aimed at restricting foreign investment but rather at ensuring optimum returns to the Canadian economy.

Canadians have some equity investments in Japan. I have noted Japanese progress in dismantling restrictions on foreign investment and I hope that you will continue this policy in order that we can maximize the benefits that accrue from the exchange of capital.

There is another form of desirable exchange between Canada and Japan, the exchange of people -- i.e., tourism. Canadians more and more are looking to the Pacific and to Japan as a travel destination. Japanese tourists are also coming more and more to Canada for an international holiday. From 1968 to 1970, the number of Japanese visitors to Canada almost doubled, from 12,000 to 22,000, and I am sure that, when the figures are in for 1971, another significant gain will have been achieved. We must continue to build on the successes we have had in terms of exchange of people and ideas through Expo 67 and Expo 70. These were great moments in the history of our two nations but also in the history of relations between our two countries, partners in the Pacific.

In the multilateral sphere we have much to gain by co-operation; we have even more to lose if the trading world is allowed to take on a protective colouring. Canada and Japan agreed last September in Toronto, and more recently at the GATT meeting in Geneva, that work should go forward towards a major new round of international trade negotiations. Prospects in this direction seemed dim a year ago, but I think this has changed. The recent dramatic shocks to the international trade and monetary system seem to have revived a willingness among the major trading nations to enter into early negotiations. We welcome recent Japanese pronouncements in this regard.

To conclude, we are anxious to strengthen our relations in every way; we are anxious to develop two-way exchange on a mutually advantageous basis; we are anxious to deepen our relations in the Pacific; we are anxious to work with Japan in partnership looking to the further strengthening of international trade and economic co-operation on a world wide basis. That is why we are here.