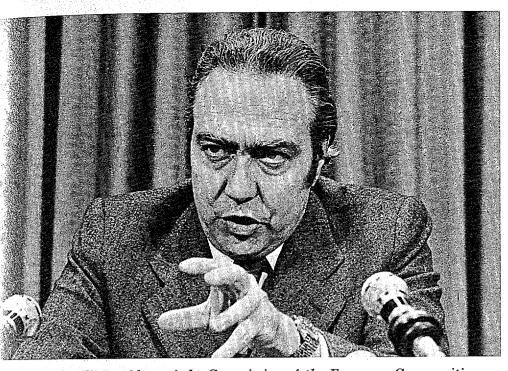
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s-Xavier Ortoli, President of the Commission of the European Communities, isit to Canada earlier this year during which he formally opened the office of the on from the Commission. While in Ottawa, Mr. Ortoli met with the Prime that that that is and attended a round-table discussion chaired by Secretary of State for ain american al Affairs Allan J. MacEachen and attended by the Minister of Energy, Mines nd R sources, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and the Minister of griculture. He is shown here at the press conference held at the end of his visit.

Affairs, precedent for that in the large Community June 19 ffice n Washington. With subsequent specialitalogie, the mission has become fully ot keen diplomatic and, in fact, opened towards

Without fanfare, various proposals mission fere debated after the Dupuy mission. A e (omreferential trade agreement, one that y tc not discriminate against the United half of ditates and other trading partners, was ever considered. Canada actually subesman hitted a draft of a bland agreement that and 1 destated the most-favoured-nation (MFN) t es abirovisions both Canada and The Nine in is entready subscribed to under the General the interement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). s text would become meaningful only if at alle GATT crumbled.

This is the agreement described by n th; Cur. MacEachen in his last report on the top ifficult achen in his last report on the libert on October 22, 1974, to the Comons Standing Committee on External fairs and National Defence. However, natimstrument became passé when Prime ltation linister Trudeau went to Brussels soon terwards and agreed with the Europeans nat it did not accomplish much.

The winter of 1974 became the gestaon period for the new, improved model July <sup>197</sup>nat the Prime Minister was able to define atior gaphen he completed his second visit to da". <sup>It</sup> urope, in March 1975. No general agreess hard tent was possible, he told a London audience, owing to the uncertainty of the pace of European integration: "What can be done is to create a mechanism that will provide the means (i.e. the 'Link') and the obligation (i.e. 'Contractual') to consult and confer, and to do so with materials sufficiently pliable and elastic to permit the mechanism to adapt in future years to accommodate whatever jurisdiction the European Community from time to time assumes."

The parties have since agreed to dress up an agreement providing for economic and commercial co-operation in the broad sense of sketching objectives and intentions rather than making any immediate undertakings. Thus, one of the articles under consideration would provide the framework for joint co-operation in discovery, extraction, processing and marketing of energy and other raw materials and resources. That provision alone could mean much or little, depending on a whole range of factors.

Some form of restatement of MFN principles from the GATT is taken for granted. Also probable are provisions for information and technology exchanges, joint industrial ventures, and trade and information missions.

The negotiators are also working on the actual machinery of consultation. The final document will probably contain an Statement of objectives and intentions rather than undertakings

35