

International Perspectives

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Editor's Note:

*Most of the articles in this issue could not have been written six months ago. That is an indication of how fast our world is changing, and if topicality and profundity were incompatible, we'd be in a mess. Fortunately, with contributors as keen as *International Perspectives*, it is possible to be both. We find Mitchell Sharp with a hearty rejoinder to Anthony Westell's rejection of the Third Option in the previous issue. (There are other responses to Westell's article in the Letters to the Editor section.) David Pollock and Grant Manuge note the direction in which Brian Mulroney is leading Canadian foreign policy, and have a suggestion for extending its benefits. Equally new is the arrival of 1985, signalling forty years of the United Nations. That's long enough for any organism to become pretty sick or pretty healthy. Nancy Gordon looks at the record, and considers some proposed treatments. Trade — or worry about trade — is always with us, and now there is another phenomenon worth fretting about. That is the management of trade by governments instead of by private business — all to the increasing discomfort of the weak or the principled.*

Sea law goes deeper and deeper, until the new institutions are nearly ready to manage the seabed itself. Elisabeth Mann Borgese of Dalhousie has followed the slow but real achievements of the UNCTAD conferences, and here explains a complex set of developments.

In Geneva real progress is being made in the tortuous route to a treaty banning chemical weapons and providing for verification, as we learn from a member of the West German delegation there. From Washington a student of Latin America offers a bleak view of Canada's record in doing its bit to promote peace and progress in the Western hemisphere, especially in Central America. In our Parliament both foreign policy and Committees have little of the prestige and power that they have in some countries. William Dobell of the University of Western Ontario offers some insights into the House of Commons Committee on External Affairs and National Defence.

*The next issue of *International Perspectives* will carry several articles on Canada/US relations.*

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