

play our part in ~~what~~ has come to be known as "the great ascent".

While the importance of strict financial assistance to the developing countries has in no way diminished, there is, I believe, a new awareness of the trade problems of these countries. For the past several years the GATT contracting parties, through their Committee III, have been making a special study of ways to expand the export opportunities of these developing countries. At the GATT Ministerial Meeting to which I have already referred, these problems were given a great deal of attention. It was agreed that in forthcoming tariff negotiations the less developed countries should not be expected to pay fully for trade and tariff benefits they have received.

Meanwhile, in the United Nations an initiative was launched by the Economic and Social Council last summer for a special World Trade and Development Conference which is to be concerned mainly with the trade and economic problems of developing countries. Canada is a member of the 30-member preparatory committee which is now meeting for the second time in Geneva to make plans for this Conference which will probably take place early next year.

Here then is an area of great concern to the people of Canada. As an advanced country with a high standard of living, we must play our full share bilaterally and through our membership in international organizations to hasten the economic progress of the less developed countries. This is not a task of charity. It is a responsibility which rests upon the recognition that faster economic progress and greater political stability in the less developed world is vital to world peace.