

Because the task of international development is so desperately urgent, and the consequences of failure so potentially dangerous for us all, it is a matter of grave concern that the collective aid effort of the developed countries has tended to stagnate in recent years.

The developed countries, including Canada, must not allow their efforts to lag; they must devote their energies to mobilizing greater resources and putting them to effective use for the benefit of developing countries.

Canada has endeavoured to set an example in this field. In recent years, the Canadian aid programme has increased considerably, and now stands at over \$300 million annually. It is the Government's intention, subject to economic circumstances, to continue expanding the aid programme to a point where, by 1970-1971, it will equal one per cent of the gross national product....

SELF-SUPPORT THROUGH TRADE

The immense task of galvanizing national energies towards the objective of establishing an international society of the kind which we are dedicated to create in this country, is one that cannot be accomplished through aid alone, and I would not suggest for a moment that economic assistance by itself can hope to provide answers to the problems of continued underdevelopment. Our ultimate objective must be to provide developing countries with the means to support themselves, and, in particular, to procure through the normal channels of trade the goods and services required for their development.

The inadequate growth of trade in the poorer countries led, in 1964, to a world conference on trade and development, and subsequently to the establishment on a permanent basis of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Discussions in this forum have already yielded a much better understanding of the nature and magnitude of the problem which must be resolved to permit more rapid economic development of the poorer countries.

Clearly, one of the most urgent tasks is to stabilize and improve the earnings of developing countries from the export of basic commodities, which for many of them account for a large portion of their total earnings from trade. In recent years, lower prices for some of these commodities have often offset the foreign-exchange benefits of foreign aid. Vigorous efforts are now being made to achieve international commodity agreements in sugar and in cocoa. Developed countries, which are often the

main consuming areas, have been called on to play their full part, and must be prepared to adapt their policies and make certain sacrifices. The benefits to the developing countries would be immense, and in the longer run we would all stand to gain.

The developed countries must also be prepared to open up their markets to a much wider extent than we have done in the past to the products of newly-established industries in developing countries. You are all familiar with the problem of preventing low-cost imports from disrupting our markets. We in Canada have a good record in working out co-operative arrangements with low-cost producers, and have provided a growing and substantial market for their products.

If all developed countries were more generous in their treatment of these low-cost imports, the burden on individual importing countries would be very slight when compared with the benefits for developing countries. The trading opportunities of all countries, both developed and underdeveloped, would be greatly increased.

NON-MATERIAL BENEFITS

I would like, for a minute, to speak about the rewards and benefits of a non-material nature which Canadians derive from their participation in the wider world economy. What I have in mind are the personal experiences which we may have, as individuals, and which can enrich our lives enormously.

There is the Canadian businessman, searching out new markets for Canadian products in a distant land where Western visitors have until recently been rare; there is the Canadian technical adviser, learning to work and live with people in a developing country who want to benefit from his knowledge and experience: in these and in other cases, individual Canadians are learning at first hand of the difficulties and frustrations, but also of the satisfactions, that come with a direct involvement in the interdependent world community in which we all live....

Canadians have accomplished much in the first 100 years of confederation. Let us not now become overly preoccupied with our problems here at home; let us rather accept, gladly, the responsibilities and challenges which arise from Canada's role as one of the world's major trading nations, and one of the world's wealthiest and most dynamic countries. Let us see ourselves as others see us in this international perspective. Let us remember that Canada, prosperous and outward-looking, not depressed and self-absorbed, is the abiding Canada, the Canada whose centennial we honour this year....

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