

world's largest single markets, it will become increasingly outward-looking, and will continue as one of the world's largest import units.

One thing is clear: Canada and France have seen ten years of exceptional progress — economic, social and technological. Opportunities for greater trade and closer relations are growing in proportion. With the future economic goals which we both hope to realize, we must exploit those opportunities to the full.

To assist in our gigantic national undertaking, Canada welcomes technology, capital and skilled labour from abroad. France has already contributed to some of these needs, but it can do much more. We would welcome a larger French role, not just for reasons of sentiment, of which there are many, but for reasons of mutual benefit which are becoming increasingly evident as we learn more about each other.

STRENGTHENING TIES

I need not remind you that, at the meeting between President De Gaulle and Prime Minister Pearson in Paris in January 1964, they stressed the importance of strengthening the ties between our two countries through trade and investments. Already contacts are growing, but much remains to be done. My own Department's efforts have led to increasing Canadian participation in specialized commercial exhibitions in France, and more frequent trade missions to France....

There has been a welcome exchange of visits of ministers between our two countries. Mr. Malraux came to Canada in 1963. Mr. Hays, then Minister of Agriculture, visited his French colleague, Mr. Pisani, and Mr. Sharp met with the French Ministers of Finance and Agriculture in December 1964. For my part, I have greatly welcomed the opportunity of meeting Mr. Debré, Mr. De Chambrun, and Mr. de Peyrefitte in the course of my all too brief stay in Paris. These ministerial exchanges reflect the importance both our countries attach to close contacts between us on matters of common interest. Following the discussions between Mr. Martin, our Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Couve de Murville in 1965, the France-Canada Joint Economic Committee met in Ottawa last November. This Committee can provide a framework for continuing the useful exchanges on trade and economic matters between senior officials of our two countries.

NEW ECONOMIC MISSION

We are now in the process of arranging for a top-level economic mission to France this spring, led by a cabinet minister. My expectation is that this mission will bring forward specific suggestions to further our growing economic and trade relationships. We see this mission as the forerunner of subsequent initiatives. There is great scope for collaboration between private interests — particularly in investment and technological change. This mission will make a great contribution.

I know it has the warm support of the Chambre de Commerce....

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Apart from the development of our bilateral economic, commercial, political and cultural relations, I am impressed by the scope for closer co-operation and more frequent exchanges of view in the international trade and economic field. Both our countries are engaged at present in the current GATT round of trade and tariff negotiations in Geneva. As major trading nations, we share a responsibility to see that these negotiations yield the benefits that can be made available through the reduction of unnecessary barriers impeding the flow of world trade. It will require intense effort in the months ahead to deal with the many difficulties that must be overcome if these negotiations are to yield their potential. We have a common interest in their success....

France and Canada also share a common interest in the development of trade with centrally-planned economies. We are both interested in selling wheat to the U.S.S.R. and Mainland China. We are expanding our trade with our Eastern European trading partners. In the main, we in Canada have recently developed these markets on the basis of bilateral trade arrangements in which most-favoured-nation treatment was being exchanged for purchase commitments, particularly for wheat. We would be glad to exchange views and experience on these questions, and others, in our individual and joint search for acceptable international solutions....

NEED FOR SKILLED FISHERMEN

According to Mr. Brian Meagher, Deputy Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries, the future of the fishing industry of Canada's Atlantic coast will be jeopardized unless there are 10,000 highly skilled and trained fishermen by 1975.

Mr. Meagher was speaking at the opening session of the Canadian Atlantic Offshore Fishing Vessel Conference held recently in Montreal. He said that the industry would progress "not as fast as we build modern boats and modern fishing plants but just as fast as we are able to provide highly skilled skippers, mates, engineers and fishermen". If the same progressive approach to the development of manpower policies as was developing in the design and construction of fishing vessels could be assured, he said, it would be possible to predict a bright future for the fishing industry over the next several decades.

LARGE FLEET PREDICTED

Mr. Meagher said he expected that by 1975 Canada would have the most modern deep-sea fishing vessels in the world. "In Nova Scotia," he said, "we look forward to a fleet of 200 large deep-sea fishing vessels of various types, but mainly capable of carrying out diversified fishing operations."

The diversification of fisheries has tended to give a greater yield per ton of fishing. Mr. Meagher said that it was felt that, with the abandonment of the dory and the adoption of herring-seiners during the past two years, fisheries were more than holding