

of transnational corporations. These mechanisms would ensure, among other things, that the financial and personnel practices of these corporations are beneficial to host countries; that taxation, local re-investment and profit repatriation regulations provide a stable base for investment and that nationalization of assets takes place in accordance with recognized procedures. With the assistance of "old" industrialized countries, the Third World would begin the long, slow process of building up its own technological base; while the existing R & D capacities of developed countries would be increasingly devoted to resolving the technical problems faced by developing societies.

One can always dream, you will say! But I challenge anyone to show that the "new international economic order" which I have projected into the future is not entirely feasible, technically and economically, given time, a lot of hard work and the will to bring it about. I would go further and claim that a gradual shift of Canadian policies in that direction would be fully compatible with most of our other national goals. I would even contend that the achievement of some of these goals, such as trade diversification and regional development, might be greatly facilitated. Eastern Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, after all, are much closer to Africa and Latin America than is southwestern Ontario; so that these less-developed regions would gain a locational advantage for industry, should Canadian trade patterns shift towards these overseas markets. Similarly, the Western Provinces would undoubtedly benefit from the expansion of our markets in Asia.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that irrespective of the new trade and financial arrangements which the international community might be able to implement in coming years, there will always be a considerable need for development assistance. Even the best of arrangements will never fit adequately the requirements and conditions peculiar to each country; and we cannot expect the economic benefits from such arrangements to be distributed equitably among all developing countries. Oil, for example, is and will remain a more valuable product than iron ore or cocoa; the bargaining power of some commodity producers will always be greater than that of others because some resources are concentrated in fewer countries; and of course there are quite a number of places in this world with few resources in relation to the population they must sustain and whose development, consequently, will require substantially more outside capital.