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Editorial

The lead article in this issue deals with Prime Minister Trudeau's efforts to inject new energy and political will into the quest for international peace and security at a time when East-West relations seem to be drifting into a dangerously confrontational phase. As a former Minister of External Affairs I can appreciate, perhaps more than most observers, the enormity of the task. The level of East-West tensions is, in the final analysis, largely a function of the relationship between the superpowers. However, a middle-level power like Canada and a statesman like Prime Minister Trudeau can have an influence, especially when what he is saying reflects the concerns of the international community as a whole.

The achievements of the Canadian telecommunications industry are discussed in our trade article. I think it is significant that leading Canadian companies, such as Northern Telecom and Mitel do not see Britain as simply an export market. Their very substantial investments in manufacturing and research and development facilities in this country are a sign of both their confidence in their own products and their confidence in Britain. They are also an example of the beneficial effects, for both Canada and Britain, of open international competition in the telecommunications sector. This quarter our cultural article takes a look at Canadian theatre, from its infancy in the 1950's to the multi-faceted maturity it displays today. Canadian theatre in the English language shares a common theatrical heritage with Britain and has been enriched by many Britons who have pursued their craft in Canada. The work of Ed Mirvish in restoring the Old Vic Theatre is part of the reverse flow of talent and investment, as is the appearance in London of Canadian theatrical productions such as the Stratford Festival's *The Mikado*.

We are marking the Year of Tourism in Canada with an article which outlines many of the special events taking place across the country. Tourism is one of Canada's most important industries and this is reflected in the variety, quality and value of accommodation, food and entertainment available for the visitor.

A special theme issue of *Canada Today* will be published in April on the province of Ontario, which is celebrating its bicentennial this year.Our next magazine issue of *Canada Today* will appear in June.

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