

new opened up for wider cooperation in trade and economic relations will make a major contribution to the further strengthening of the free world.

Trade relations between Canada and the United States are characterized by mutual understanding and a constructive approach to our common objective of freer non-discriminatory trade. These new efforts to expand world trade will provide continuing opportunities for our two countries to work closely together, each in a full understanding of the other's interests and aspirations."

We are glad that this proposal has been welcomed by President Kennedy who shares the views expressed by Prime Minister Diefenbaker on the necessity of working for freer non-discriminatory world trade.

Mr. Chairman, my Government recognizes that under conditions as they exist today no country, to paraphrase the poet, "is an island entire unto itself". To speak of international economic and political cooperation as a fundamental necessity is certainly one of the venerable clichés of this organization -- clichés do, however, become clichés because they contain a very substantial element of truth, and this is undeniably so in the present instance.

One recent example of international cooperation within the United Nations framework was the successful negotiation last summer of an International Coffee Agreement which has now been signed by twenty-nine countries including Canada. This Agreement holds promise of introducing new stability into international trade in a product which is of great importance to many developing countries. Since the war, three commodity agreements of this nature, covering wheat, sugar and tin, have been concluded and the particular problems of other commodities such as lead and zinc, cocoa and rubber, have been thoroughly explored in special study groups established under United Nations auspices.

We have undoubtedly made progress in recent years in our search for solutions to commodity problems but we must not minimize the gravity or far-reaching nature of those which still confront us; since these problems are tending to become