

Your countries, like our country, are rich in their resource industries but wider industrialization remains a goal for us all. Like you, Canada is working to this end. It requires investment capital in larger amounts than the domestic economy can always generate. It involves skills and crafts for which your people and ours must be highly trained.

Latin America is on the threshold of an era of broad industrial expansion. The overall framework within which a good deal of this expansion is to take place will be as established by such programmes as the Alliance-for-Progress, the original free-trade areas, to which I have referred, and the national policies of the individual republics.

It is most timely to examine within this framework the respective roles of the private and public sectors of the national economies. The history of my own country in realizing its own national - its continental - development may contain some helpful precedents to the problems now facing Latin America. The great continental undertakings in Canada - be they in the area of the transcontinental railways, or of communications generally, or of industry, or in the development of our natural resources - have all taken place through the joint effort of private interest and government. In some instances, governmental participation was of a direct nature, providing funds or fiscal guarantees, or, indeed, going beyond this and being developing agent itself. In other instances, government established a fiscal and economic climate for development in which private enterprise could, and in so many cases did, function effectively. This concept of "balanced" development is at the heart of Canada's economic well-being and has been achieved without losing sight of the objectives and respective roles of public and private activity in a national economy.

In countries like yours and ours, just beyond the frontier stage of development, we cannot afford the luxury of excessive government intervention. Government must, of course, make provision for the social services required especially by peoples who live in countries which have expanding industrial economies. Government must see to the social and economic needs of the people. Business must be aware of all this too, and must support the programmes.

I hope my coming here will be another token of the interest Canada has in the development of Latin America. We would like to be associated with you as you move forward, as your economies expand, as your population grows, as your great countries become greater.

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