

but in the long run the consequences would be wasteful, disruptive and dangerous for all countries.

Canada is also a developing country, but unlike most Western or industrialized countries, a major producer of resources. In this sense Canada has many interests in common with other producers, including stable markets, a reasonable price structure, and a growing capacity to subordinate international business decisions to the national interest. But while most producer countries are comparatively poor, Canada is not. We enjoy the third highest standard of living in the world. Moreover, while Canada is more nearly self-sufficient in key natural resources than any other country in the world except the USSR, we depend more than most countries on trade for our prosperity and particularly trade within the U.S.A.

This dependence, both on trade and high living standards, as well as the producer-consumer character of our economy, gives a special incentive to Canada to be active in preventing trade confrontations and devising machinery for cooperation. In this context I agree with the recent remark of Mr. Maurice Strong that "Canada first cannot mean Canada only."

This country has a proud record of international achievement. Canadians would not wish, nor does this government intend, to let that record become an historical curiosity. The international social and economic challenges of today call for new concepts and habits of international behaviour, just as the international political circumstances of the late 40's called for and provoked new ways of keeping the peace. Now, as then, this country is in a strong position. We have taken advantage of that position to pioneer new concepts of international law, particularly of course for the Law of the Sea. We are beginning now to focus our attention on international resource management, partly because it is in our interest to do so, but also because it is in the international interest to find solutions to global problems. Indeed, we have no choice. Canada's good fortune will be short lived if it is not accompanied by a sense of responsibility for the fortunes of others.

Without international agreement on such matters as resource conservation, population planning and food distribution, many, perhaps a majority, of the world's people face a grim future.

There is no basic obstacle to such agreement and cooperation, given the leadership of those countries both able and willing to lead, and provided that the world can continue to avoid a general war. For want of something better as a means of avoiding such a war, we shall have to continue to rely on the system of mutual deterrence constructed in the 1950's and '60's. While no one can guarantee its continued success, the tensions of yesterday are no longer our primary concern. It is not the least hopeful sign that the old political and ideological East/West divisions are irrelevant to the solution of the new global challenges, with their strong North/South elements. These latter challenges require, and may even promote, cooperation between East and West to the mutual benefit of all.