

the Council is prepared to undertake marketing services for industries planning location or expansion, and is constantly investigating new avenues of trade which would be beneficial to producers in the Atlantic Provinces.

The Atlantic Economic Council, composed as it is of business and professional men, industrialists, labour leaders, agriculturalists and others, is particularly qualified to appraise opportunities for new development and expansion of trade. It is well qualified to build, in the hearts of the people within this region itself, that spirit of aggressiveness, initiative and confidence so essential to accomplishment. Working in co-operation with the provincial governments of the region, and performing the duties for which the APEC organization is best qualified, I am confident that, as an organization, it will contribute much to the development of the Atlantic region in the years ahead.

In closing, let me repeat, the problems ahead are great; accomplishment of our mutual objective will not be easy, nor will it materialize simply because it is the wish of many of us that it be done. I look forward to the fullest possible co-operation in the future between the Federal and Provincial Governments on the one hand, and the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council on the other, and given this, I am confident that through economic development, this historical area of Canada will continue to make a great contribution in the building of our country. I am also confident that, working together, it will be possible to rectify inequalities of opportunity which have grown up in our economy, and which must be eradicated.



While the takeover by the department will not take place until some time in 1978, and final plans have not yet been made in this connection, it will operate mainly in the Gulf and Maritimes area, and in all probability will be based somewhere in the Maritimes areas well.

Although there has always been the highest possible degree of co-operation between the officials of the Federal and Provincial Governments, co-operation between governments alone will not make economic development of the Atlantic region a reality. There must also be the fullest co-operation of the people whom these governments represent. That is why the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council will play such a vital part in the work which lies ahead.

The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council was formed for the sole purpose of uniting the thinking and the efforts of business, industry and individuals in a crusade which would build confidence in the region, encourage investment in its future, and inspire the people of these provinces to themselves take an individual, active part, in building for the future.

I understand that APEC is engaged in conducting economic studies into various aspects of the economy of the Atlantic region, such as agriculture, electric power, the tourist trade, and possible industrialization - that