

which would be known in the world of corporate business as an "interlocking directorate" - should help guarantee the co-operation all of us seek.

There has been some press comment recently suggesting that the organization of the Company of Young Canadians has been stalled by the election. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Dr. Leddy, as chairman of the organizing committee, this week issued a report on the work of his committee to date. That report certainly shows real progress in the short period of four months since his committee was set up. There have been almost constant discussions and consultations with voluntary organizations and government departments, with youth groups and interested individuals, in seeking to define the tasks and opportunities for the Company of Young Canadians. As Dr. Leddy said, these exchanges have been not only useful, they have been essential, to the organizing committee's job of assessing the potential for voluntary service within Canada and abroad, and the committee expects to present its report to me within five or six weeks.

In the meantime, after only four months of study, the Chairman reports:

"The response of young Canadians and of voluntary service groups to the concept of the Company of Young Canadians has been positive and enthusiastic. Our work this summer has convinced us of the great possibilities for placing qualified, highly motivated youthful people in positions of great challenge.

"We continue to look forward to the early establishment of the Company of Young Canadians to help with the solution of some of the urgent problems of human, social and economic under-development within Canada and abroad."

I should think that this interim report should satisfy most Canadians that the Company of Young Canadians - far from being in limbo, as sarcastically suggested in some impatient quarters - is very much alive.

I can assure you that, when the Government receives Dr. Leddy's final report, no time will be wasted in preparing the necessary legislation and presenting it to Parliament.

I can assure you also of the determination of the Government to continue to develop the most active partnership and co-operation with CUSO, whether through direct assistance or through the Company of Young Canadians.

We are very conscious of the vitality and voluntary character of CUSO; we know you will do your part to continue and preserve these qualities and traditions. I want you to know that we intend to do what we can to help you.

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