

That spirit will not, I think, escape from any who shared it. For it lit within each of us the realization that, while our problems are very real and very complex, our ability to deal with them depends entirely upon our willingness to extend to them the same measure of honesty and concern that we employ within our own families. And we realized then, as well, that answers that do not confer benefits upon ordinary human beings are not answers at all.

That concern for people was what "The Spirit of Ottawa" was all about. I urge you to rekindle it here this week. I urge you to do so by adhering to the high standards of human concern that were voiced again and again around that particular table by leaders from all parts of the world, but by no one with the compassion and the eloquence and the sincerity of the late Norman Kirk. None who listened to Prime Minister Kirk last August, and certainly none who had the good fortune to know him, doubt the depth of the loss experienced by the people of New Zealand, and by men and women everywhere. Mr. Kirk possessed the genius to remind us that none of our activities, be they political or economic, are defensible unless they bring with them human benefit.

One of the underpinnings, surely, of the human condition is economic in nature. In years past, I fear, we have not always approached this underpinning with sufficient care. We have allowed too much darkness to spill into the spaces between the occasional beacons of a Bretton Woods or a Colombo Plan or a Kennedy Round. And we in the developed countries have injected ourselves with the unforgiving opiate of unthinking belief in our systems, our values, our generosity and our indestructibility. By clinging to those economic beliefs too long, we have remained in the dark while the world has changed about us. In the result, the international record has been subject to fits and spasms of progress, frequented by long spells of inactivity or even decline.

I dare to believe, however, that we are emerging now from one of those long periods without light. And, as always when one first faces the brilliance of sunshine, certain images are engraved on the retina. One of those images, to me, is the absolute interconnection of events in all countries of the world, developed and developing alike. Another image is of the similarly absolute requirement for co-operation in our attempts to deal with those events in order to turn them to our benefit.

We should be shortsighted indeed if we believed that the development process can be dealt with separately from that of commodity