

The relevance of world conditions to the most elementary questions of our security and survival is obvious. I am sure that you have asked yourselves how relevant the broad themes of our foreign policy are to immediate questions of economic prosperity and social progress in Canada.

I scarcely need to identify the economic and social challenges which we face ourselves in our own country. We have to maintain a rate of growth which will guarantee a rising standard of living. We have to exert ourselves by our industry, by our technological skill and by imaginative planning in order to be fully competitive in the world market. We have obligations towards our underprivileged groups, towards Canadian society as a whole, for improved welfare.

Does this mean that economic conditions in other countries can be allowed to recede beyond the horizon as a subject for our interest and concern? It would be the most short-sighted folly if we allowed this to happen.

Here are some of the realities of conditions elsewhere which can affect our national interest in ways we do not often realize. The President of Pakistan has pointed out that "for a majority of nations of the world, economic progress is today another name for sheer survival". The President of Tanzania has said something which should be pondered by Canadians, for whom trade is life-blood: "Even a completely closed market which is restricted to the poor of the world would be better for us than the present system in which the poor are at the mercy of the rich". A senior United Nations economist has pointed to what, from the standpoint of the developing countries, appears to be an "inevitable deterioration in the terms of trade in a world of vicious circles, perverse relationships and asymmetrical situations." This is the language of the economist, but it carries its own sense of urgency and concern.

This is the world we live in and we should be foolish to think that we could make ourselves invulnerable and count only on our efforts within our own boundaries for prosperity. International economic co-operation is imperative - whether it involves close relations and negotiations with the United States, negotiations with the developed nations over tariffs and trade, adjustment of the terms of trade for developing nations or development assistance to those nations.

The answer to any who ask whether we are to concentrate on helping ourselves or on co-operating with others is simple but hard: "You must do both". This is the challenge to Canadians in developing their own country. It is the challenge to their Government in its economic diplomacy.

These are some of the grand themes of our foreign policy. I should like to close by saying something about Canadian problems. Under the impact of danger or the stimulation of external problems, we have agreed on the national interest and acted to defend it. In the 20 years or so during which Canada has developed a global