

because we realize that if there is to be an expansion in world trade there has to be a joint effort. (impromptu remarks not recorded).

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It is fitting and in the interests of all of us, that further progress be made as soon as possible to enable Japan to take her rightful place in the wide field of international trade. The rest of the world has been impressed by the action which you have taken to strengthen your economy and to enforce a high standard of commercial conduct.

From the outset, the Canadian Government has supported efforts to bring your country back once more into the international trading community. We were happy to join with other countries in welcoming Japan to the meetings of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. And, with the completion of the commercial agreement between our two countries, we intend to declare our readiness to have the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade apply to our trading relations with you for the immediate future.

We also hope that the requisite negotiations can soon be arranged for your full membership in this General Agreement on Tariff and Trade.

I know something of the economic difficulties which your country has experienced and with which you may be still confronted. We in Canada were much concerned to learn that the problems which you were endeavouring to overcome were aggravated last year by disastrous floods and by declines in some of your food crops. We are also aware of the onerous task with which you have been faced in attempting to re-establish your external trade at an adequate level while you were still deprived of many of your traditional sources of supply for important raw materials and many of your previous markets. I can assure you that in the steps you have taken to deal with the critical conditions which you have experienced during the past year, you have had the active sympathy of the Canadian people. I am confident that, in your efforts to overcome other difficulties and to achieve increasing prosperity for your people, you will find an understanding attitude among the people of Canada.

I am happy to say that a survey of the relations between Japan and Canada show very few outstanding problems. We were happy when it was found possible to conclude a treaty of peace with Japan and to see normal diplomatic relations resumed. Since that time, relations between our countries have developed along what I think are pretty satisfactory lines. Various treaties of mutual benefit have been revived. We hope to sign the commercial agreement to which I have already referred, and we have concluded with Japan and the United States a Convention for the Regulation of the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean.

No review of Canadian-Japanese friendship would be complete without a reference to the visit of your Crown Prince to Canada, on his way to the Coronation of