

selves; that is our commitment to others.

On other occasions our policies will disagree, but we are driven by the same vision as to the value of the individual. This has led us to work closely together in the battle against hunger, oppression and aggression in all its forms. Our people and our governments respond naturally and generously to international famine, tragedy and despair.

Through two world wars, and in Korea, Canadians and Americans fought side by side. Today, we stand together as partners in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and NORAD....

Issues between Canada and the United States have a different significance in our smaller country than in your larger one. What is incidental to you can be central to us; what is entertainment to you can be culture to us. We are acutely conscious that the Canadian economy and the Canadian identity must grow together. Sovereignty depends upon a strong economy....

The best way for us to restore our economic health is through trade. For trade means jobs and opportunity for Canadians.

Major partners

Last year Canadian-American trade exceeded \$150 billion. This is the largest single trading relationship in the world. American investment in and trade with Canada is twice the size of its investment in and trade with Japan and greater than that with the

ten nations of the European Community.

The trade of this province alone rivals that of China with the United States! Our two countries are each other's largest growing market: in 1984, Canadian exports to the US rose by 28 per cent while US exports to Canada rose by 26 per cent. Nearly four million jobs, two million in each country, depend on this trading relationship.

Energy, especially important to Calgarians and Albertans, is a vital link in our community of interests. Canada is the largest foreign supplier of natural gas and electricity and the second biggest source of oil to the US. Gas and oil pipelines cross the border at many points; and five Canadian provinces have hydroelectric power hook-ups with American states. The St. Lawrence Seaway and power projects and the Columbia River power project are testimony to our co-operation in the development and operation of our joint resources.

Co-operation increases markets

We have achieved this felicitous relationship not through confrontation, but through co-operation. For protectionism is not the answer to the world's economic woes. The 1930s proved definitively that the road to prosperity lies through fair and open trade. Working through multilateral bodies like the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and negotiating with one another under the auspices of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations is

the only way to ensure our economic health. Albertans and Calgarians, especially, realize the importance of trade. The growth of the oil patch was in large part predicated on secure markets to the south. The technology to harvest this mineral wealth was largely American. We benefited from the flow of oil patch welders and engineers who migrated north of your borders just as American cowboys did a half century before.

Western expertise

Albertans have now reached the point where we can in turn pass on the expertise that we have developed in fields such as pipeline construction. The development of our tar sands and exploration in the Beaufort and Hibernia is the new frontier in energy exploration. Trade in technology and human expertise has been for the most part unfettered by tariff or other barriers. We want to keep it that way.

Indeed we want to increase our trade. And to achieve this goal we are looking to our principal market. We want to begin discussions with the United States to secure and enhance market access for both our countries. As a government we are ready to take this step because it represents the best chance for those Canadians who want jobs.

A trade agreement with the United States could cause change. It represents a challenge. But Canadians and westerners, in particular, have never shirked a challenge.

Federal-provincial natural gas agreement

Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Pat Carney has announced an agreement between the federal government and the gas-producing provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan to allow the price of domestic and exported natural gas to be established in the market place and not by the government.



Pat Carney

"The agreement completes the process begun in the western accord of replacing prices set by the government with prices set by the markets," said Miss Carney.

During the transition year, which began on November 1, 1985, customers whose contracts expire are free to negotiate new contracts directly with producers at competitive prices, provided a transportation toll service is in place. About 60 per cent of

industrial contracts will expire during the year and will be able to benefit from this provision.

"By November 1, 1986, all natural gas buyers and sellers in Canada will be released from unnecessary government intervention in their market place," said Miss Carney.

The new agreement provides for:

- direct sales at prices and terms freely negotiated between producers and distributors or large industrial users;
- competitive marketing programs under which distributors will be permitted to offer discounts to meet competition;
- export floor prices based on regional price tests rather than a single Toronto price;
- a National Energy Board review of TransCanada Pipeline's services in light of the new pricing system to ensure equitable access to this system;
- removal of volume restrictions on short-term natural gas exports; and
- a comprehensive review of the role and operations of interprovincial and international pipelines.

Barbados fishing harbour

Stevenson Hluchan Associates Limited (SHAL), a Toronto consulting engineering firm, has signed a contract with the government of Barbados to design and supervise the construction of a fishing harbour in Bridgetown, Barbados.

The contract, valued at \$16 million (Cdn) will be implemented by SHAL, Koppermaes Engineering Limited of Halifax, Nova Scotia and the Barbadian firms of Associated Consulting Engineers, Selby, Rose & Mapp, and Richard Gill and Associates.

The project's main components include construction of a fishing harbour that will handle up to 150 fishing vessels and provide boat service and repair facilities. A fisheries terminal complex with fish handling, cold storage and marketing facilities will also be provided.

Other recent projects completed by SHAL include a harbour complex in the Bahamas similar to the Barbados fisheries and the design of a Caribbean Development Bank-funded fish processing plant in Antigua.