

our need for unity and security, our belief in political liberty, the protection of our heritage of Christian civilization — affect every aspect of our external affairs. Canadian policies — though they should be national policies — will always be influenced by international factors, by our position in the Commonwealth, our friendship with the United States and with the other countries of this hemisphere; by our historical, racial and cultural ties with Europe, and by our wish to live in friendship and understanding with the new nations of Asia and the Middle East. Factors like these will govern the formulation of Canadian policy, wherever that policy is stated.

There is more to policy-making, however, and a great deal more to policy-implementing, than merely knowing what influences and determines policy, or what seems right and what seems wrong by our own scale of values. The difficulty is to decide not only what is right, but what is feasible — not only what Canada should do and what Canada would like to do, but also what Canada is physically capable of doing, with resources which, though increasing, are still limited. It is a matter of deciding what should be ranked as Project A, and what share of our resources should be devoted to that project, and what share will then remain to be divided among Projects B, C and D. These decisions are the difficult ones. They leave room for wider differences of opinion than the initial decision that all these policies and projects are wise and deserve Canada's support.

In the various United Nations bodies, recently, the word "priorities" has been increasingly heard. This is a symptom of growing awareness that while the things that need doing in the world, and that could be done through the United Nations, are legion, the resources of the United Nations and of its member states are limited. First things must therefore have first priority, if the available resources are not to be dissipated in doing a multitude of things inadequately.

Decisions on priorities can lead to disagreement over national policies. The same is true internationally. In the United Nations disagreement on just such an issue has, in fact, led to a serious rift in recent months. A gap has become apparent between the developed and the under-developed countries of the world. Its most important cause is disagreement over the amount of help which can be extended to the under-developed countries and the rate at which it can be extended. The countries from whom this material help must principally come — and Canada is one of them — contend that they must give priority to defence measures for their own survival. That this must come first is not, in fact, seriously questioned by anyone. The difference of opinion is over the extent to which other pressing problems should be subordinated to this first objective.

The seriousness of this rift in the free world should not be minimized. It is a matter of deep regret that Canada, on more than one recent occasion in the United Nations, has had to oppose certain projects from countries whose friendship we value deeply and for whose aspirations we have the greatest sympathy. At the same time, the importance of this difference of opinion should not be inflated out of all proportion. The communists may gloat over "contradictions in the camp of imperialism". This, however, is