

highly protective tariff on such commodities as aluminum, wood pulp, newsprint, lead and zinc would be harmful to our trade.

We have made it equally clear that a protectionist common agricultural policy would have severe effects on our agricultural exports to the Common Market and be a source of grave concern.

In the tariff negotiations now taking place in Geneva under GATT we are making every effort to secure reasonable access to the Common Market. The Six understand our position and the scope of the interests we have at stake. Our policy is to protect these interests.

Britain and the Common Market

I turn now to the negotiations between Britain and the Common Market. Britain is at the centre of a worldwide trading system in which the production facilities of many Commonwealth countries have been created to supply the British market. The adoption of the Common Tariff of The Six by Britain and of a protectionist agricultural policy, without arrangements designed to protect Commonwealth interests, could not fail to destroy important and beneficial features of this system.

What would be our own position?

Our agricultural and fisheries products, instead of entering the British market duty free or with a preference as they now do, would have to enter what might be a highly protected market. These agricultural and fisheries exports to Britain were valued at \$300 million last year, or 33 percent of our total exports of \$915 million.

Many of our raw materials which now enter the British market duty free would face a tariff. For instance, the present common tariff for aluminum is 10 percent, for wood pulp 6 percent, and 7 percent for newsprint. Our total raw materials exports to Britain in 1960 were valued at \$510 million.

With respect to our manufactured and semi-manufactured exports, which accounted for \$105 million last year, we would not only lose our preferential access to the British market vis-a-vis The Six, but reverse preferences would be created in their favour. In other words, while their exports to Britain now face a higher tariff than the one we enjoy, they would be entering the British market duty free while we should have to face a higher tariff than now.