Canada Weekly

Ottawa Canada Volume 11, No. 2 January 12, 1983

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Canada's future can be shaped by strength of collective will

In his new year's message, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau was optimistic that the human spirit would cause "a new international order to rise out of the present disorders". The following is the text of Mr. Trudeau's message:

In these troubled times, we all realize that it is more than ever necessary to have confidence in the future. So when we wish each other a happy new year today, perhaps it is more than the simple observance of an old custom. Perhaps it is also a way of sharing our determination to face the future with hope in our hearts.

By the very act of expressing good wishes, we reject despair. We affirm that the future can be shaped by the strength of our will, that history is not written in advance. We affirm that a better tomorrow depends upon what we do together today.

It is in that spirit that I offer you my very best wishes on this first day of 1983.

It is true, I know, that when we look around our poor planet we can find many reasons for pessimism and despair.

The nuclear arms race, far from slowing down, is speeding up once more. Armed conflicts have killed thousands in the Middle East and in Latin America. The lamp of liberty does not shine any more brightly in Poland or Afghanistan today than it did a year ago.

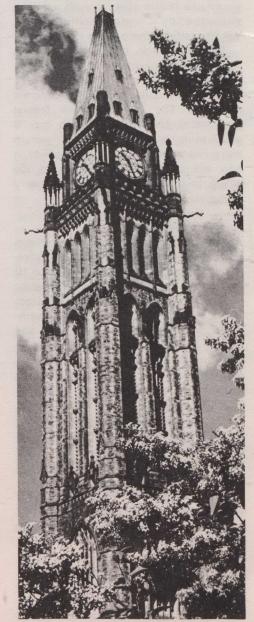
The global economy is still being thrown off-stride by the lingering oil shocks of the 1970s. The gap between rich and poor nations has reached that critical stage where certain Third World countries are being forced to the brink of bankruptcy.

Here at home, the morale of Canadians has been undermined by unemployment, high mortgage rates and crippling inflation.

New awareness

Nevertheless, if we look beneath the surface of current events, we can see some basic forces at work which prevent us from despairing.

Millions of men and women in Europe and North America, conscious of the



The Peace Tower clock on Parliament Hill chimed in the new year for the first time since 1980 following two years of extensive renovations inside the tower.

External Affairs Canada

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