

of our posts the biggest section will be immigration. You just have to know what is going on in Manila, Delhi, and Hong Kong these days to realize that. Again, some very important decisions will be made by our government which I think will have an impact on us. External Affairs has a key role to play because we will be asked to implement those political decisions. There are eighty million people on the move right now from the southern hemisphere to the northern hemisphere. If we think that we will avoid the problems involved in such a massive migration of people, we are dreaming. Canada is already targeted as one of the last frontiers of the globe, so we will end up with a lot of pressure to allow more people within our borders. This is perhaps one of our new roles, one External Affairs has not been known for in the past, but that role is looming on the horizon as being one of the major issues that will certainly give us a higher profile in the future.

Of what importance are environmental issues to the department?

The state of the environment is a very high priority of the Canadian people. This is a priority that is easily understood. I just came from Mexico, where I saw the damage done to the environment. In Mexico we used to have dead birds in the street, which, according to the press, dropped dead from fatigue flying in from Canada. We've got a great country with very little pollution, compared with other parts of the world, and we have to make sure we keep it that way and pass it to future generations -- to our children.

Environmental issues are of interest to this Department. There is now a strong department of the Environment that is organized to deal with this priority, but environment has foreign implications as well as domestic implications. Our role on environmental issues is at the global level. On all trans-boundary environmental issues you are immediately into the realm of agreements, of declarations among countries of the

world, and in some cases, treaties. For instance, the role that Canada played at the Hague Environmental Summit or at the Paris Summit, are good examples of initiatives at the international level. Our active participation in the activities of UNEP is another indication of what is certain to become a more important role for Canada at the international level in the years to come.

ECP: How do you envisage the role of the Department in the 1990's?

I envisage that we will be the main, if not exclusive, department dealing with the broad range of Canada's relations with the world. That will mean dealing not only with purely foreign and trade policy issues, and trade promotion efforts, but also delivering major new programs.

I also see us dealing with key issues like the future of our society: what kind of Canada do Canadians want to have in the immediate future, as well as 20 years down the road? Obviously the leadership on that issue will not come from this Department, but this Department will have a crucial role in implementing the political decisions that will be taken pertaining to the kind of Canada we want to have in the years to come.

To answer your question, the kind of department that I would like to see in the years to come is one that is well integrated at the Ministerial level, at the Deputy Ministerial level, and at all levels. That's the only way that this Department will be able to deliver on a diversified range of major issues and programs. And obviously, that is the second part of my answer; we will have to give ourselves the tools to do that job. Those challenges are not going to be easy, and I want to make sure that we have the tools required to do a proper job. I also believe that if the present trends continue, we have to, at some stage, stop cutting, and decide to be engaged, almost on a regular basis, in a prioritizing exercise to eliminate the less desirable or less useful activities and to focus more on our main priorities.