



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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CANADA'S ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD TRADE

**An Address by the Honourable Paul Martin,
Secretary of State for External Affairs, to
the Business and Professional Women's Club
of Windsor, Ontario, April 24, 1965.**

...Canada is heavily dependent on international trade. One-sixth of all the goods and services produced in Canada are ultimately exported. The level of our imports has been of roughly the same proportion. We are among the five or six largest trading nations in the world and I believe that, apart from New Zealand, we do more trade per head of population than any other country. This naturally gives us a vested interest in cultivating close relations with all parts of the world. It makes us look outward rather than inward. It also gives us a strong impetus to support orderly and sensible world arrangements, whether in the trade field or in other fields of international co-operation and exchange.

Trade is, of course, a projection of our domestic economy. If we are to trade beneficially in the world, our trade must be based on a sound and expanding economy. Our costs must be stable and our prices competitive. We must use our resources fully and efficiently. We must not lag behind others in the application of science and technology to the development of new products and new processes. We must broaden the base of our exports to make sure that we are producing those categories of goods for which demand in world markets has been expanding the most rapidly. And we must have the financial and other facilities that help to underpin an effective export performance.

That is what we can and must do right here in Canada and the Government will naturally continue to do what it can to encourage our economy to develop in that direction. But Canada's heavy dependence on trade means, of course, that we are also affected by events outside our own borders over which we have only limited control. We are affected, for example, by economic developments in our major markets. That applies especially, of course, to developments in the United States which has been and remains far and away our most important trading partner.