

bility for action while the Federal Government merely takes the responsibility for payments. We intend to protect the essential federal interest, the national interest, more realistically than that! But we also intend to develop the closest and most co-operative arrangements possible with the provinces to the national advantage, and to recognize new conditions that require such arrangements.

I believe we are achieving this new co-operation. Certainly, the spirit that has prevailed at recent federal-provincial meetings has demonstrated the mutual determination of the Federal Government and the provinces to work together in maintaining a Canada, strong and united.

ROLES OF LABOUR AND MANAGEMENT

This purpose, however, is not the responsibility of governments' alone. All of you — whether representing labour or management — have your own responsibility to promote national unity. Dr. W.D. Wood, in one of your research papers, has put the case clearly in these words:

"There is the large question of national unity. Co-operation between labour and management particularly at the national and regional levels of the economy, could contribute greatly to national unity at a time when there appears to be increasing fragmentation across the country and an unintended drift into narrow provincialism....We often tend to forget that, in the same way that the private and public sectors of our economy are interdependent, so also are the different regions within our economy."

Like the author of these words, I, too, have been impressed by the number of Canadians, in labour and management alike, who are increasingly concerned not only about their organizations' roles in national unity but about the need for co-ordinated economic policies as a contribution to that unity. And, in that context, it must be obvious to this gathering that the well-being of Canadians cannot be enhanced through the pursuit of a "beggar-thy-neighbour" policy by any part or any element in our nation. In a world awakening to the benefits to be gained from removal of barriers to trade amongst nations, it is absurd to think that any real benefit can accrue from the erection of artificial obstacles to trade within Canada....

NEW JOB SERVICE FOR NWT

An extension to the Northwest Territories of the services provided by the National Employment Service was announced recently by Mr. Arthur Laing,

Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and Mr. Allen MacEachen, Minister of Labour. NES officers and selection and placement officers of the Northern Administration Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will co-operate in finding jobs for NWT residents. The NES office in Edmonton, Alberta, will exchange information with Northern Administration officers in the Mackenzie District. The names of skilled workers in the Northwest Territories seeking employment in southern Canada will be sent to Edmonton to be placed in line for suitable job opportunities. Meanwhile, the National Employment Service will notify Northern Administration officers of requests from employers for people to work in the Northwest Territories.

HIGH-LEVEL AUTOMATION TALKS

The effects of automation on manpower will be examined by some 150 leaders and experts from the United States, Canada and Western Europe at a conference to be held in Washington, from December 8 to 10.

Sponsored by the U.S. and Canada, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the conference will include high-level participants from government, management, labor and universities. The co-chairmen will be the United States Secretary of Labor, Mr. W. Willard Wirtz, the Canadian Minister of Labour, Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, and the OECD Secretary-General, Mr. Thorkil Kristensen.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION

The Conference on the Manpower Implications of Automation, as it will be called, is to examine the impact of automation on employment and unemployment, the nature of jobs being created and eliminated, and the measures needed to ease the effect of technological change on workers. Its main feature will be an open discussion by participants following presentation of technical papers on such subjects as the economic setting of automation, the facilitation of worker adjustment to technological change and the impact of automation on occupational employment patterns, job content, and working conditions.

The pooled knowledge and experience emerging from the conference are expected to provide guidelines for future action that will enable industries and workers in the countries taking part to realize the full benefits of technological change at minimum human cost.
