

on the other, the creation of new demands by new technology. The fact that the new technology is much more capital intensive than the old is, of course, of great significance to a country such as Canada which imports a significant share of its capital for industrial expansion.

A third key fact is the fact of French-speaking Canada. How to make a new society in this country, a society in which French-Canadians can play their full part, is today Canada's greatest problem. It is also most certainly our greatest opportunity. The new idealism of Quebec can well be the decisive factor in the future of Canada, for without the full and enthusiastic participation in our national life of French-speaking Canadians, independence will not only be more difficult to defend but a good deal less meaningful. I am one of those who think that Canada without Quebec is not only unthinkable but likely to be very dull as well.

Trying to take account of these key facts, I should like to set out what I think are the main areas in which we can strengthen Canada's economic and financial independence. I suppose you might call this list a sort of "agenda for independence"; perhaps, if you like, it is a kind of economic manifesto.

A Strong and Growing Economy

The first thing we have to do, and to keep doing, is to maintain a high and stable level of employment, with rising personal incomes. That means we must maintain a high level of productivity. It means, too, that the full armory of powers, not only of the Federal Government but also of the provincial governments, must be deployed in the pursuit of policies of growth and of full and highly-productive employment.

This economic policy is a necessary condition or underpinning for any policy of independence, for many obvious reasons. I shall cite only two. First, I don't think that Canadian independence can be very meaningful or attractive to the unemployed or the under-employed.

Second, unless we can offer our trained and able people the chance to use their talents in Canada, many of them - certainly many of those who speak English - are likely to migrate to the United States. Ready access to the United States and familiarity with the opportunities there distinguishes Canadians from other people outside North America - and presents Canada with some of its special problems. If the disparity in incomes and in opportunities between Canada and the United States were to widen significantly, the attractions of remunerative and interesting employment in the United States would pull away some of our most able people.

A New Confidence

Of course, our most able and well-educated people don't stay in Canada only because they are well paid. They stay here because they find something special about Canada which they are not prepared to leave behind them. As I see it, it is the task of the