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how they deal with problems affecting industrial performance brought about by national and international developments. This will assist us in formulating Government policies and programs to benefit Canadian industry, particularly through the development of sector strategies.

The role of the Canadian Government is to identify opportunities that companies would not be likely to uncover by themselves, develop policies that will facilitate the process, act as a catalyst, coordinate, monitor progress, and generally provide guidance to the Canadian business community and the provinces. The action plan will vary from country to country, but company-to-company contact resulting in business projects is, of course, the ultimate objective of the exercise.

It is particularly agreeable and interesting, I find, to observe the process of European construction, to follow the negotiation of a "contractual link" between the EC and Canada, from Brussels, a great European centre I knew in the course of my first assignment to our embassy, at the end of the [Second World] War. I found many of my old friends and, everywhere, a strong recollection of our co-operation during the war, and an equally strong hope that, together again, we can powerfully contribute to the cause of freedom in the world, to expanding economic prospects so vital to the future of our countries. In such circumstances, unimportant details are seen in a perspective that emphasizes what brings us together, what we are seeking in partnership. For many reasons, Europe seems to be well-disposed towards us. Between Europe and ourselves, the climate, the prospects for co-operation are excellent. The time has come to pull together our resources and to take advantage of a situation that seems auspicious from all angles. This is the challenge and the opportunity that is offered all of us.

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