

-- for the first time -- at the ministerial level.

Finally, it was recognized that the ultimate success of the work to be undertaken rested largely with private enterprise and that special efforts should be made to bring together French and Canadian businessmen in the coming months. In this connection, I have asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to lead an official trade mission of Canadian businessmen to France in 1975.

In Brussels, where I profited from formal discussions with Prime Minister Tindemans and his Cabinet colleagues, as well as with Prime Minister Thorn of Luxembourg, the same intensity of purpose was manifest -- to build on the warm relations now existing with Canada, to intensify the contacts and exchanges now pursued, to support Canadian initiatives with the European Community, to co-operate in multilateral sectors.

In Brussels, too, as in Paris earlier in the week, there was broad agreement, not simply on the identification of the major issues of global proportions but also on the postures that must be adopted with respect to them. We discussed, and agreed, that the dangers of nuclear proliferation demanded the design and implementation of more thorough and effective safeguards. We also agreed that the critical elements of the present state of the world economy -- inflation, slow growth, balance-of-payments deficits, recycling, trade negotiations -- demanded liberal and statesmanlike attitudes as distinct from cautious and protectionist ones. In this latter respect, the Minister of Finance and I have now sought and received the views and understanding of no fewer than eight prime ministers and presidents in the last six weeks. We shall continue our efforts in weeks to come.

Western Europe is, of course, much more than the geographical location of several nation states. It is, as well, the site of a number of international organizations: in Paris, UNESCO and the OECD; in Brussels, NATO; and others elsewhere. It is something else still; it is an evolving conception, a process, an idea to which dedicated men, in spite of formidable obstacles, are bending their efforts through the growing and ever-maturing European Community. This Europe is not the sum of the national parts; it exists of them and for them, yet it exists in addition to them. It is not enough, Jean Monnet was fond of saying, to add together the several sovereignties; men had to create the new Europe. They are now engaged slowly, sometimes painfully, in that creative process. This Europe, this entity of the future, is organic in nature. As yet, its potential size and strength and attitudes can