

Also, in 1977, there are, I have no doubt, likely to be important developments in the whole area of *détente* and, of course, the companion area of disarmament. For a number of reasons, 1976 has not been a particularly productive year for East-West talks relating to disarmament. I think it is fair to say once again that probably the SALT talks and some of the others that have been going on in different forums have suffered as a result of the uncertainty about the future political leadership in the United States, as well as, of course, for a variety of other reasons. But in 1977, once again, I think it is incumbent upon us in Canada to call, as we have already started to do, on the great powers to undertake a determined effort to ease the tensions that are inherent in the current arms race. And here, once again, I'm sure you will understand that this is a subject that again could occupy many hours not only of talk but of discussion; but it is sufficient for me to say this evening that, to me, 1977 is a very crucial year in that vitally-important field, not only important in the sense that it heightens the possibility even of inadvertent war but also important in the sense that it is diverting such scandalously large sums of money into the arms race when so much of the world is in such incredible poverty and need.

And that brings me to the fourth and final area where I believe there will be great need for wisdom and vision in the Security Council in the United Nations in 1977 and in the years beyond, and that is in the area that has come to be called the North-South dialogue. This is such a complex subject that it is virtually impossible, without the to-and-fro of questioning and discussion in small groups, to deal with it adequately. But the simple truth of the matter is that we have a situation in the world today -- perhaps brought to a head by the OPEC-country developments -- in which the vast majority of the people of the world, the vast majority of the countries of the world, are in a deplorable condition economically and in every other imaginable way.

It occurred to me the other day, for instance, when I was looking at some statistics, that a simple way to try to convey the scope of the world's poverty was that there were 900 million families -- people rather -- in the world whose income in a year was only half of what a Canadian family with two teenage children received from family allowances alone. If you can think about it in those terms, it gives you some kind of conception of why we are facing, in the underdeveloped world, not only a challenge to our magnanimity but, I suggest, in a very real sense, a challenge, ultimately, to our survival. Because, until we can find a suitable means of sharing more equally, not just in the kind of welfare manner of much of the past but in a way that gives these people in these countries hope for the future, then there will invariably be the kinds of mounting