

I do not think it will help anyone if the textile men and the sugar-growers in Canada and other such groups feel themselves pushed onto the defensive and into a corner. Professor Reuber put it well in December when he said the Government needs to find "a long-run policy (with) underlying assistance arrangements, and then to see it through and not shift ground depending upon the particulars of the day". To put it another way, there needs to be between the Canadian Government and producers a broad and positive discussion about the trends of world trade and about the changes and readjustments in which all can benefit, as long as these changes are planned over a steady period.

I should speak specifically for a minute about CIDA's own Information Division and its public information program. An agency such as CIDA needs to mount an intensive program of communication with both the general public and specialized publics. I have spoken a good deal about the active involvement of Canadians in international development; but involvement can also be intellectual, for professors and housewives and everyone else. They are due, and they should have, as complete an explanation as possible of the ways in which an increasing portion of public funds is being used abroad. As well as reporting on particular CIDA activities, the Information Division is being reoriented so that it can help explain broad development issues to Canadians, and so that CIDA's efforts can be better seen in fuller perspective. The Division is being built up so that it may go beyond the point of responding to inquiries and recording particular events, to the stage where it may to a degree anticipate and recognize new trends in the policies and work of international development, and help explain them in good time to the Canadian public.

### Conclusion

This statement of mine, of priorities and preoccupations, has to be seen against the background of the more general and fundamental objectives of Canadian international development activities. I should like to close by summarizing those objectives, as I see them.

First, there is the objective of helping the low-income and less-favoured nations shape and develop a society according to their own national priorities, so that they may enjoy a larger share of the benefits of life which we enjoy in the richer countries.

Secondly, there is the task of playing a significant, if not a leading, role in developing a new international community with a different set of values, as expressed in terms of national expenditure, from the values accepted today. I look towards an international community where smaller and smaller sums of money and effort are spent on military activities, and where we all make increasing contributions to the task of improving the living conditions of all humanity. This objective is founded on the belief that humanity, for all its superficial divisions, is an indivisible and closely-knit community where any significant development in one group has an inevitable and swift repercussion on the whole. We cannot avoid our responsibilities; the challenge is to face them with spirit and imagination.