

been our second trading partner. The volume of trade between Japan and Canada has risen considerably since the end of the Second World War. In 1963 the total volume of trade between Japan and Canada amounted to \$600 million. Today it is approaching the \$2 billion mark, which is a forceful indication of the increase in our commercial relations with that country.

Much of this increase is due to the combined efforts of Canadian businessmen and governments, regardless of party.

Ministerial meetings set up by former Prime Minister Diefenbaker as a result of arrangements made with Prime Minister Ikeda of Japan, have not only given Canadian and Japanese ministers an opportunity of exchanging views on foreign policy questions, as Senator Hays well knows, but has enabled trade and finance ministers to discuss policies calculated to improve trade between our two countries.

Japan has a special relationship with Canada. The fact that she has been a constant market for Canadian wheat is, as Senator McNamara knows, part of the uniqueness of her relations with us. Japan is a member of the OECD together with Canada and other countries. This gives us a substantial bond which we enjoy with Western countries in the OECD, including Japan.

Japan is vitally concerned in other problems of mutual interest. I had word the other day from Mr. Maurice Strong, who was appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations to prepare for the World Conference in 1972 on the problem of world environment. Japan has a serious problem, as have all the developed countries. The exchanges that have taken place between Mr. Strong and Japan, exchanges somewhat the same as the exchange of views between his organization and Canada and other countries, may play an important part in the outcome of the environment conference which will take place at Stockholm in 1972.

I suggest to Senator Aird that this aspect of the problem, while it has a worldwide dimension, might be of very special interest in the study of Canada and her relations with Asia. So I say to Senator Aird that we welcome this report which he has made today; we welcome the opportunity that it affords to initiate a discussion on a wide front of our relations with other countries. Many senators attend various international conferences, as Senator Connolly (Ottawa West) has emphasized. A meeting with our opposite numbers in the United States, members of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, will take place shortly. These are valuable meetings, as Senator O'Leary reminds us, but so are these other meetings.

Senator Molson has given notice today of his intention to report on his work as an observer at a recent meeting of the Council of Europe, an organization designed to promote unity among the nations of Europe. While we are not members of that organization, we have a serious interest in the outcome of its work. It will be valuable to hear, as we will from Senator Molson, not only of his direct experience but the impressions which that visit

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has given him, and to hear his views of common market developments. Surely there is no question that is more important in terms of our future trading relations than what will happen when Britain enters a common market in Europe, if she does. How will that affect us in the short and in the long term? I do not suppose that there is any more important question for us in economic terms than what that kind of enlarged common market will mean to a country such as Canada, which enjoys the geographic propinquity that we have with the large North American market at our doorstep to the south. These are vital questions which we discuss in our boardrooms, which we discuss in the universities and which we should not hesitate to discuss in the Senate of Canada.

**Hon. Allister Grosart:** Honourable senators, it is my intention to move the adjournment of the debate. I regret that I was not present to hear the chairman of the committee begin his report. I was attending a meeting sponsored by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association with His Excellency the High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago.

Honourable senators will be interested to hear that His Excellency gave it as his impression that the Government Leader, Senator Martin, may have recovered the ball after the colossal fumble of the Government with respect to the Caribbean sugar agreement. He was highly laudatory of the accomplishments of Senator Martin on his recent trip to the Caribbean, and indicated that he may have come back with that fumbled ball. I think he deserves our congratulations for that.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Grosart, debate adjourned.

## STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

### NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING

**Hon. Paul Martin:** Honourable senators, Senator Molson has asked me to remind you that he has scheduled a meeting of the Standing Senate Committee on Standing Rules and Orders for Thursday, May 6. During the past session there have been several suggestions with respect to possible changes in our rules, and Senator Molson is anxious to have a good attendance at this meeting.

**Hon. Mr. Flynn:** Will the Government Leader promise not to attend, so that the committee can decide freely?

**Hon. Mr. Martin:** I am not in humour for that today; I cannot be in good humour all the time.

## TEXTILE AND CLOTHING BOARD BILL

### SECOND READING

The Senate resumed from yesterday, the adjourned debate on the motion of Hon. Mr. Cook for the second reading of Bill C-215, to establish the Textile and Clothing Board and to make certain amendments to other Acts in consequence thereof.

**Hon. W. M. Benidickson:** Honourable senators, as it is the wish of the Government Leader that this item be