

- (1) to foster economic growth
- (2) to safeguard sovereignty and independence
- (3) to work for peace and security
- (4) to promote social justice
- (5) to enhance the quality of life, and
- (6) to ensure a harmonious national environment.

These are described as the six main themes of national policy and no one could quarrel with any of them, any more than they would think of quarrelling with motherhood. But on page 32 of the main pamphlet an effort is made to assign priorities and we find that economic growth is given the highest priority. Social justice and the quality of life are a mention. Peace and security, and sovereignty and independence are somehow placed in some degree of relative insignificance.

Mr. Speaker, we challenge this philosophy. Economic growth may be important, but as a determinant of foreign policy or the highest priority for consideration, we think it is both old-fashioned and wrong to put so much emphasis upon it. In our view, the emphasis should be on peace and security. Canada has no greater interest than in the maintenance of a stable and peaceful world. This, in turn, depends upon the development of a world community and the development of social justice not only within nations but between different groups of nations.

We also place supreme importance upon the maintenance of Canada's sovereignty and independence. Canada should indeed be a good citizen in the community of nations, but the best basis for this would be the preservation of Canada's own sovereignty and independence against threats to that independence not only military but economic, cultural or intellectual. For too long we have borrowed many of our attitudes in international affairs from large countries with which we have been associated by history and geography. For many years we were dependent upon the United Kingdom, and now our dependence is upon the United States of America. To some extent this may be inevitable, but in our view it has gone too far.

Mr. Speaker, I now propose to deal with three or four specific aspects of Canada's foreign policy. These illustrate the differences in outlook which I have outlined. The first of these subjects is development in the third world; the second, the situation existing in Viet Nam; and the third, Canada's relations to southern Africa.

There is no graver issue threatening the stability of the world than the growing disparity between the so-called rich and poor nations. The standards of living and consumption in one-third of the world vastly exceed those in the other two-thirds. The gap continues to grow. Grim poverty and hardship is the fate of large sections of humanity. Indeed, we are told on good authority that there is a prospect of serious famine in vast regions of the world this year. This is a time when the resources of the world are expanding and will expand, and it is a time when the culture of the western world has spread throughout the whole world and aroused expectations. Social justice within countries is based on a measure of equality. Social justice in the world depends upon a measure of equality between different nations and regions of the world.

*The Address—Mr. Brewin*

● (1620)

I wish to mention two aspects of the relations between the developed and developing world. The first is aid and the second is trade, but neither should be considered in isolation from the other. The developed world has failed miserably to make an adequate contribution through aid. No countries, including Canada, have lived up to the standard set by the United Nations and in the Pearson report. This report called for not only a substantially increased volume of aid but also for changes in the nature of the aid given—the untying of aid, the expansion of multilateral as against unilateral aid, and in general the removal of aid from the taint of neocolonialism and self-interest on the part of the developed nations.

Canada, it is true, has made some comparative progress, and although I am sure CIDA is not a perfect institution, I would like to pay tribute to its work. During the course of the last year I visited both Tanzania and Bangladesh and had a chance to see at first hand some of the results of Canadian aid through CIDA. I believe that in these countries, at any rate, Canadian aid has been effective, and is highly spoken of by the recipient countries. However, we still fall below the international standards that have been set. The Pearson report mentioned a target of .7 per cent of the gross national product as a reasonable measuring stick. Canada contributes something between .4 and .5 per cent. Most of our aid is still tied. The greater proportion of it is unilateral.

The need for increased aid is particularly urgent at the present time. The Speech from the Throne mentions that the third world has been especially hard hit by the energy crisis. These countries import oil and other forms of energy, not for recreation or luxury but to keep their plans for development going. The increased cost of energy endangers the patient efforts of countries like India, Bangladesh and Tanzania, to take illustrations only, to reach the point of take-off from which their drive for development can be self-sustaining. All their carefully laid plans which we have supported can be wrecked by the rising cost of energy.

Canada has contributed foodstuffs to various areas of the world but as the prices have moved up, the same dollar value of aid produces a much smaller actual volume. We have to step up our aid in dollar terms if we are to maintain even the existing level. But aid alone is not the key to development, although it may be helpful. The main key is, in fact, the establishment of effective trading relations between the third world and the rest of the world. In the past GATT, UNCTAD and other international efforts to regulate world trade have been dominated by the developed countries. The share of the third world in world trade has diminished rather than increased. The prices of primary products upon which many third world countries rely have been grossly inadequate.

Canada and the other developed nations must listen to the pleas of the third world. They must provide special drawing rights, they must lower trade barriers so far as developing countries are concerned, and they must assist marketing and other methods of expanding trade with the third world. If there is disruption to industry in Canada, then legislation should be passed for adjustment assistance to those affected.