

Though parliamentary action was required to settle a dispute between the operators and employees of our railways in 1950, similar difficult situations threatened during the past year and were averted by the moderation and good spirit of both parties. The whole period has witnessed an increasingly good relationship between labour and management in industry generally.

Provision has been made for the insertion in all federal government contracts of clauses prohibiting discrimination on the part of the contractor against any person in regard to employment because of that person's race, national origin, colour or religion. You have approved a bill during the present session to make similar provisions in respect of employment upon or in connection with any work, undertaking or business that is within the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada.

The present Parliament has completely revised the Indian Act providing inter alia for full voting privileges for Indians at their option. The Immigration Act has also been completely revised and substantial improvements have been made in the Canadian Citizenship Act. A large number of immigrants have come to Canada to make their homes and share in the development of our country.

From time to time you have made important amendments to the National Housing Act and there has been a notable expansion of house building under the manifold provisions of our national legislation.

A great advance in social security was made when this Parliament enacted a measure to provide for the payment of pensions as a matter of right and without a means test to all Canadians with appropriate residential qualifications who have attained the age of seventy years; together with the complementary measures to share with the provinces in assistance to those in need between sixty-five and seventy years of age.

At the present session you have extended the national health program inaugurated in 1943 under which health and hospital facilities have been greatly expanded all over Canada. The new grants which you have provided for maternal and child health services, for medical rehabilitation and for the extension of radiological and laboratory services will bring added facilities for better health to people in all parts of Canada, will give new hope to the disabled and will assure greater health protection to the Canadian mother and child.

The Penitentiaries Commission has introduced important reforms in the administration of our penal institutions with gratifying and promising results.

This Parliament enacted legislation to provide for the construction of the Trans-Canada highway in co-operation with the provincial governments.

To assist in our national development you also authorized the Canadian National Railways to construct a branch line from Sherridon to Lynn Lake in the province of Manitoba and one between Terrace and Kitimat in the province of British Columbia; as well as providing for federal assistance to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway to complete the line to Prince George. You approved a number of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Transportation including provision for the maintenance as a national charge of the link in Northern Ontario between Eastern and Western Canada and the measure for the recapitalization of the Canadian National Railways.

You made provision for the construction of the Canso causeway which is now under way and for ferry services from North Sydney to Port aux Basques and the terminal facilities at that Port, and a new ferry service between Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and Bar Harbor, Maine.

You have also made financial provision for certain improvements to Vancouver harbour and for engineering studies of that harbour and other possible improvements to navigation on the Pacific coast.

You have authorized the creation of a corporation to be known as "The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority" for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining, either alone or in co-operation with the United States, a deep waterway between Montreal and Lake Erie.

You also approved the agreement with the government of Ontario to make possible the development by Ontario, in co-operation with an appropriate agency in the United States, of hydro-electric power in the International Rapids section of the St. Lawrence river. The power project has been approved by the International Joint Commission and work on the seaway as well as on the power development can be started as soon as an agency is authorized in the United States to co-operate in the power development.

You approved the Niagara Diversion Treaty between Canada and the United States to provide for appropriate safeguards of the scenic beauty of this great waterfall and for the permanent diversion of additional water from the Niagara river for hydro-electric power development and the development is already under way.

You made provision for the development of the industrial and scientific uses of atomic energy through a new crown company known as Atomic Energy of Canada, Limited.

You have enacted legislation for federal co-operation with the provincial governments in the conservation of our forest and water resources.

To safeguard the existence of a number of important communities, you have also made provision for assistance required to maintain certain gold mines and certain coal mines in production.

You have made the necessary provision to implement the national television policy with the objective of making television available as widely as possible across the country through co-operation between the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and private stations; and to ensure an adequate Canadian content in television programs.

You have also provided for the financing of sound broadcasting and television without licence fees for receiving sets.

You have approved a measure to define more clearly the functions of the National Film Board and simplify its administrative machinery.

You have approved the creation of a National Library, a site for the building has been chosen, and plans are now being prepared.

You have revised the National Gallery Act and the Board of Trustees has been expanded. You have also made provision for the payment of grants to universities and equivalent institutions of higher learning recognized and approved by the provincial authorities.

You have placed the Historic Sites and Monuments Board on a statutory basis and given encouragement to its activities and made provision for a monument to a former Canadian Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, to be erected on Parliament Hill.

You have provided for a unified and systematic procedure for the publishing and tabling in Parliament of the regulations and orders made by the Governor in Council, Ministers of the Crown or other agencies authorized to make regulations having the force of law.

You have strengthened the legislation to prevent combines and price fixing in restraint of trade.

A measure has been enacted to place the Crown in substantially the same position as a private person with respect to liability for acts committed by its servants, for breach of duty arising