

consultation with all the authorities concerned, which would be available to the federal, provincial and municipal governments and to the public generally; so that all Canadians will be aware of the problems which lie ahead and so that governments at all levels, will have the best possible advice to assist them in their own planning and in their respective contributions to this great problem.

You will be invited to consider new housing programs which, while recognizing the primary responsibility of the individual and the other levels of government in the provision of housing, will help to fill requirements that clearly lie ahead.

The impact of science, industrialization and urbanization and the changing conditions in Canada and abroad also demand that our agricultural goals and policies should be kept under continuous examination. The Government, confident that Canada can look forward in its second century to continuing as one of the great agricultural countries of the world, proposes to establish a Special Task Force under the Minister of Agriculture. It will be charged with projecting agricultural goals for the future and recommending policies to meet these goals. A firm basis should thus be provided for the development, in full co-operation with the provinces, of a national agricultural policy. This national policy will be designed to bring greater returns to the efficient farmers of this country consistent with those of other segments of our economy and consistent with the contribution to our well-being that is made by the agricultural segment. At the same time plans will be developed that will permit the retraining of those who wish to leave the agricultural field.

The changing needs of rural communities also deserve special attention. During the present Session, you will be asked to approve legislation to provide long-term loans to agricultural and fisheries associations and corporations to permit them to develop facilities commensurate with the needs of such communities. The pattern of agriculture is changing and with the change there is increased need for capital to permit the development and maintenance of a competitive agricultural structure. Therefore you will also be asked to broaden the scope of the Farm Credit Act, in particular to enable young men and farmers' sons to develop or acquire efficient and viable production units.

The great natural resources that we take into our second century will be vital to us in meeting our needs and in maintaining our position as a major world trader. Measures will be introduced by the Government at the present Session arising out of the need to conserve and preserve the great wealth with which Canada has been so richly endowed. Water itself is becoming a more and more valuable resource. Efforts to combat pollution are taking on an economic as well as a social significance and the federal Government intends to press forward in co-operation with the provinces. In keeping with this objective, you will be asked to approve a new Canada Water Act which will provide a framework for the improvement and implementation of Canadian water policy.

At the same time, the search for new resources hastens the opening of the North. Substantial progress has been made in recent years in the government of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, and the Government intends to undertake new incentives for industry and regional economic planning intended to strengthen the economy of the North.

The encouragement of scientific and intellectual endeavour, and the development of natural resources, will be of no great benefit to Canadian society in its second century of Confederation unless a concerted effort is made to bring about a better relationship between the individual and his government. The Government therefore attaches great importance to administrative and law reform so as to assure the citizen an understanding and sense of identification with what is going on, the better to assure his support of and participation in the social institutions of our country. You will be asked to examine legal procedures and administration, not only with a view to their efficiency, but also as regards their simplicity and efficacy in so far as the individual citizen is concerned. Canada must set itself the task of developing a society in which every citizen can become an informed and real participant and plan a rôle to the measure of his wishes and abilities.

The Standing Committee of the House on Privileges and Elections will be asked to continue its study of the Report from the Committee on Election Expenses. When this study has been completed, the Government will put forward proposals for your consideration.

You will be asked to consider reforms in our laws governing divorce. The Government