

governmental structure which, within its areas of constitutional responsibility, ensured that the necessary means to survival of the French-Canadian community were maintained. The existence of the federal system protected the French-Canadian society until the day - which I believe we have now reached - when Canadians as a whole are prepared to welcome not only the survival but the flourishing of French-Canadian culture as both necessary and desirable for Canada. If federalism has in the past preserved French Canada when the rest of Canada failed to appreciate its value, today it gives French Canadians, looking outward, an area of activity larger, more varied, more welcoming than they could have ever found as a minor, enclosed, inward looking community.

The second achievement of Canadian federalism has been the establishment and maintenance of a free society in Canada. To some extent this comes from the federal system which, by balancing governmental authority, prevents the concentration of political power in one set of hands. Even more important is the liberal tradition of free institutions and individual rights embodied in British conceptions of parliamentary government and civil rights.

ECONOMIC HISTORY

The achievements I have noted to this point are intangible achievements - important, but not easily quantifiable. Our most striking achievement, however, to outsiders, is the construction of a rich, developed, diversified, modern, industrial urban economy.

To considerable extent this development has depended on our fortune in having in Canada overwhelming natural wealth. No doubt, also our participation in the North American economy has stimulated our growth. But also important have been the national policies of the Federal Government, which have been designed to give Canadians the opportunity to take advantage of the rich potential Canada offered.

The first task of Canada in 1867 was to provide the transportation structure which was necessary to create a continent-wide economy. The history of the development of Canada is, in many ways, the history of government-supported efforts to link a far-flung country by transportation arrangements - first the railways, then canals and harbour improvement, government-supported airlines, and national highways, finally, in 1951, the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway....

We have established various institutions - such as the Bank of Canada, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Economic Council - to help provide a country-wide framework for growth. Within that framework a host of mechanisms have, as objectives, the maximum development of the regional potential to contribute to the national economy.

The Wheat Board, the Atlantic Development Board, the Area Development Programme, and two programmes which are of special concern to me, ARDA and the Fund for Rural Economic Development, are examples of the direct involvement of the Federal Government in supporting a high rate of

regional growth in the economy. This concern to promote the growth of the economy has been matched by a determination to ensure that national standards of fair employment practices safeguard the interests of Canada's working population. And the needs of a modern industrial labour force have been further recognized by the implementation of federal-provincial manpower programmes to encourage the training of adult workers so that they more easily adjust to the changing employment conditions of a technological society....

SOCIAL SECURITY

And Canada is not only a rich society. It is a society which has used its wealth for the purpose of social justice. One of the constant pre-occupations of government, especially in the past 20 years, has been to install in Canada a framework of social security and welfare measures which would ensure that all Canadians, regardless of their financial status, would receive protection against sickness, old age and unemployment....

The list of social-security programmes undertaken in Canada is a long and impressive one. It places us as one of the most advanced countries in the world in this area. The total Canadian expenditure on these services, for the year 1965-66 (not including, that is, the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Assistance Plan, the Guaranteed Income Supplement or the Medical Care Programmes), the total Canadian expenditure was \$4.7 billion or 8.8 per cent of gross national product, a percentage level much higher than that of, for example, the United States or Australia. Over 60 per cent of this expenditure - almost \$150 *per capita* for the Canadian population - was furnished by the Federal Government.

CULTURE

And, increasingly, government policies have been directed not only to safeguarding the minimum conditions for life but actively promoting the context in which the *good life* - the *civilized life* - can be lived. The quality of Canadian life - its cultural achievement and access to that achievement for its citizens have become as important to government as the material level of life enjoyed by our society. In television and broadcasting, in the visual arts, in film and design, in promotion of research in the humanities and in science - the Federal Government has played an active role. In undertaking this role the Government has been conscious of the importance of recognizing and encouraging the expression of a Canadian culture which represents the best quality of the society in which we live. Our splendid Montreal Expo - a profound display of this aspect of Canadian life - is a witness to the importance of government activity in this sphere.

Our achievements have made Canada privileged among countries - technologically advanced, rich, a developed culture, feared by no nation, a source of help and hope to most. When one looks at the troubles faced by most countries in our world, those of Canada - important as they are to us - are the cares of