

for widows, widows with dependent children and the disabled and to make other needed amendments.

In another area of social policy, the field of housing and urban development, the Government proposes the following action, in co-operation with the Provinces:

- assistance in the provision of low-cost housing and other accommodation for senior citizens
- home-ownership assistance to low and moderate income families
- new incentives for housing provided by co-operatives and non-profit corporations
- assistance in the rehabilitation of older neighbourhoods
- a land assembly program to assist in the creation of new communities and to check urban sprawl
- encouragement to investors to make more money available to meet housing needs
- a warranty system to protect the purchasers of new houses
- assistance in the relocation of railway tracks and other facilities
- study of the Government's responsibilities with regard to urban transportation generally.

In response to the increasing importance of fitness for the well-being and health of Canadians and the need for greater opportunities for people to participate in sports activities, it is proposed over the next three fiscal years to more than double the current level of expenditures under the Fitness and Amateur Sport Program. Plans for a greatly expanded and a strengthened program will be announced.

Inflation is a world-wide problem. The Government is determined to contain inflation in Canada to protect the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar in the hands of the Canadian people and to protect Canada's position in world trade. While food prices in Canada have steadied slightly in the last month or so, the Government is concerned about possible future effects of the world-wide trend toward higher food prices and will propose the setting up of a Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons to make a special study of this problem.

Efficient communications between all parts of the country are essential to the unity and prosperity of Canada. Technological developments can have a pervasive effect on the social and economic well-being of all Canadians. The Government will, in the near future, submit to Parliament proposals for a national communications policy, and for resolving problems arising from the growing interaction between broadcasting and other forms of telecommunication, giving due weight to the interests and concerns of the Provinces.

The Government will introduce legislation establishing a competition policy to preserve and strengthen the market system upon which our economy is based. The new policy will be in harmony with industrial policies in general and foreign investment policy in particular.

World-wide demand for our agricultural products is strong, in particular for our wheat and other grains. The Government will concentrate its attention upon transportation, storage and handling problems to ensure efficient and timely movement and delivery of grain and other agricultural products.

You will be asked to amend the Crop Insurance Act to allow the Government to reimburse the Provinces to a maximum of fifty percent of premiums paid under contracts of insurance, thereby reducing costs of insurance to individual farmers.

The Government supports the principle of an equitable relationship of prices of feed grain to livestock feeders in various areas of Canada. It is the intention of the Government to implement before the next crop year, procedures that will ensure the optimum development of the feed grain and livestock industries within Canada.

Measures to protect the natural environment and to enhance the productivity of Canada's renewable resource industries will be laid before you. In addition to amendments to the Fisheries Development Act, you will be asked to consider an Environmental Contaminants Act and a Canada Wildlife Act.

To preserve the ecological integrity of Canada's coastal and maritime areas, further preparations will be made for the Third United Nations Law of the Sea Conference. The Ministry of State for Science and Technology, in co-operation with the Department of the Environment and other interested departments, will recommend a national program of research and development in the field of Marine Science and Technology.

The Government will continue its efforts through national, bilateral and multilateral measures to overcome the continuing menace posed by aerial hijacking. In particular, you will be asked to amend the Aeronautics Act to provide for strict security measures to be taken at airports, including the search of persons and property.

You will be asked to consider legislation amending the Immigration Act, to curb abuses including the exploitation of the provisions allowing visitors to apply for immigrant status while in Canada. You will also be asked to amend the Immigration Appeal Board Act to provide for the rapid and equitable disposition of outstanding immigration appeals and prevent the recurrence of large-scale appeal backlogs.

The growing complexity of our society calls for increasing co-ordination of federal and provincial government programs. The Prime Minister will propose a meeting in the spring with the provincial First Ministers to plan further steps in the harmonization of goals, policies and