

My Ministers believe that the time has come when all the nations now united in the common purpose of winning the war should seek unitedly to ensure an enduring peace. The dangers of future aggression can be removed, and world security attained, only by a general international organization of peace-loving nations. You will accordingly be invited to approve of Canadian participation in the establishment of an international organization to further national security through international co-operation.

While the post-war objective of our external policy is world security and general prosperity, the post-war objective of our domestic policy is social security and human welfare.

In the opinion of my Ministers plans for the establishment of a national minimum of social security and human welfare should be advanced as rapidly as possible. Such a national minimum contemplates useful employment for all who are willing to work; standards of nutrition and housing adequate to ensure the health of the whole population; and social insurance against privation resulting from unemployment, from accident, from the death of the breadwinner, from ill-health and from old age.

Post-war planning falls naturally into three broad fields: preparation for the demobilization, rehabilitation and re-establishment in civil life of the men and women in the armed forces; the reconversion of the economic life of the nation from a war-time to a peace-time basis, and its reconstruction in a manner which will provide opportunities for useful employment for all who are willing and able to work; and the provision of insurance against major economic and social hazards.

A broad program has already been developed for the re-establishment of veterans of the present war, and for the care of disabled veterans and the dependents of our fighting men and merchant seamen. You will be asked to approve a measure to provide war service gratuities for all who have served in the armed forces, and also measures to supplement the existing rehabilitation program.

The maintenance of full employment will require, in the period of transition from war to peace, a rapid and efficient conversion of war industries, the enlargement of markets at home and abroad, intensified research into new uses of our natural resources, programs of national and regional development, including housing and community planning.

Suitable peace-time uses for war plants are being sought, and plans are being made for their speedy conversion. To assist in the conversion of war plants and in the development of small and medium-scale industrial enterprises, the provision of additional credit facilities, for both fixed and working capital, will be required. To meet this need, your approval will be sought for the establishment of an Industrial Development Bank as a subsidiary of the Bank of Canada. Expenditures on development work, in preparation for the transition of industry from war to peace, will be encouraged by suitable tax modifications.

To assist in developing post-war export markets for primary and secondary industries, a measure will be submitted to provide for the insurance or guarantee of export credits, and steps are being taken to expand the trade commissioner service abroad.

Provision will be made to expand research activities.

A measure to amend and supplement existing housing legislation will be introduced.