

Economic and technical assistance to the less-developed nations of the world continued to be needed both on humanitarian grounds and to provide the economic basis for peaceful and orderly progress in those nations. You will therefore be asked to continue programmes of aid to other, less-developed nations, particularly those in the Commonwealth. You will also be asked to vote support for the programme of scholarships and fellowships to be exchanged within the Commonwealth adopted at the suggestion of Canada.

Substantial progress has now been made in finding a satisfactory basis for the development of the power of the Columbia River in co-operation with the United States and negotiations for this purpose have now been initiated with the Government of the United States. The results will be placed before Parliament for approval and for the authority to take the measures necessary to bring about the full use of this most valuable source of power. The Government of Canada remains ready to participate with British Columbia in the joint development of the potentials of this great river.

International trade is one of the chief bases of Canadian prosperity and must continue to be a major interest of this Parliament. The growing exports of various countries are presenting us with both increasing opportunities for trade and problems of competition. Developments of far-reaching importance to Canada's trade are now taking place in Europe, and two of my Ministers are in Paris today consulting on these subjects with representatives of other nations . . .

Canada and Collective Defence

On January 18, in an address on the Speech from the Throne, the Prime Minister said, concerning Canada's defence policy:

All of us know . . . that the problem of defence remains with us the major cause of the tremendous expenditures that we in the free world are obliged to make A rigid or final course would have no regard to the changes that are taking place internationally. Indeed, in the last three days a speech has been made by Mr. Khrushchov to which I also intend to allude and which in every way bears out the views expressed by the Minister of National Defence over and over again in the House at the time of the cancellation of the contract for the CF-105, that the day of manned bombers was about to be over and that in the 1960's we would be in the missile age.

The day before yesterday Mr. Khrushchov outlined in detail almost exactly the viewpoint expressed by the Minister of National Defence, his information having been secured from those in responsible positions among the Chiefs of Staff and also from the various portions of the free world which gather information in this regard. Indeed, when he took that stand there were many people across Canada who could not believe that the U.S.S.R. was about to bring about an end to the manned bomber.

I mention that matter because in defence the uncertainty to which all of the free world is subject arises from the fact that it can never be finally determined