

It is the view of the Government that the most important single factor in the attainment of individual dignity and active social involvement is the assurance of a secure income. Considerable progress towards the goal of a total income security program for all Canadians is achieved in the new Family Income Security Plan bill which will be presented for your consideration. The emphasis in this plan is on protection and is consistent with the Government's belief in the strong sense of self-reliance of Canadians.

The pride with which Canadians regard this country and which inspires them to identify with it springs from many sources. Some of these are physical in nature, some cultural, still others are economic. Canadians find in the vast spaces of this land, in its rugged coasts, in its throbbing vitality and in its serene tranquility something of themselves. It is the intention of the Government that immense areas of Canada be preserved in their natural state for the enjoyment of this generation and of generations to come. For the first time some of the grandeur and the wilderness which is Canada's north will be guaranteed perpetual preservation through incorporation into the National Parks System. You will be asked to approve legislation which will create three new parks north of the 60th parallel, each as large and as spectacular as any in the world. These three parks, plus the seven new parks created since 1968, mean that for the first time in our history every province and territory will include within it a national park for the benefit of our people.

Companion legislation will be introduced to provide wildlife habitats and to protect certain endangered wildlife species.

While taking care to preserve for the future, we should, wherever possible, preserve and restore those achievements of the past which are an essential element in our self-understanding as a people. You will be asked to consider, therefore, a bill creating and endowing a corporation to be known as Heritage Canada which will go far to ensure the preservation of items and collections from Canada's past and to make these accessible for the enjoyment and understanding of Canadians in all parts of the country. Heritage Canada, complemented by a broadened National Museums policy, will demonstrate the achievements of our fore-fathers and their successes in overcoming physical isolation and in converting dreams into reality.

Still another form of isolation springs from indifferent communications services. It is a matter of concern to the Government that at this moment many communities do not receive the national broadcasting service and that some one million Canadians in 260 communities receive no television service in their own language. The Government proposes, therefore, that the C.B.C. be authorized to extend its services in a comprehensive fashion and to utilize the capabilities of Canada's pioneer satellite communications system to assure within a five year period that at least 98 percent of Canadians are served.

The standards against which a society is judged by others and by history are often those chosen by the society itself. The image it projects, the values to which it adheres, the treatment it accords the disadvantaged in its midst; these are matters for each society to determine,

[The Hon. the Speaker.]

and in determining to be judged. In our relations with one another, in federal-provincial relations, in Canada's relations with other countries, our values are both guides and distinguishing features. Canada is committed to the betterment of life for all, to the resolution of differences by reason not force, to the practice of tolerance, to the acceptance of love and understanding as the most important of human traits. The Government, therefore, will continue to participate fully in international efforts for peace and for the well-being of people everywhere. It will continue to do what it can on behalf of the Canadian people to assist those who are afflicted by calamities, both natural and man-made.

The fluidity in world affairs marked by events in the past months and those expected in the near future present to us an opportunity to deepen and enrich our relationships with our old friends and to seek and strengthen friendships with others both within and without the councils and agencies of the United Nations. Isolation within the international community is as barren and damaging as is isolation within a domestic society. The visits to Canada in 1971 of such distinguished Heads of State and Government as the Presidents of Yugoslavia, Nauru and Niger, and the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, Ceylon, Ghana, Malaysia, Fiji, Senegal, and Israel illustrate the universality of Canada's attitude to the world.

Canada's lines of communication and understanding continue to stand open in all directions. In particular, our ties with our friends in the new Europe and our attachment to the United States remain of the greatest importance. A United States which is strong, dynamic and outward looking is vital to the success of Canada's international endeavours and to our ability to contribute to the well-being of fellow Commonwealth countries and of those states in receipt of Canadian economic assistance including the fellow members of l'Agence de Coopération culturelle et technique des pays francophones to whose important conference we acted with pride as host last autumn. The Government and all Canadians anticipate with considerable pleasure the visit to Canada this spring of the President of the United States and Mrs. Nixon.

Our age is marked by inconsistency. Within our societies, the trend all too often is toward increases in size and of impersonality in human relationships while on the planet itself the speed of communication has created a new intimacy among nations. In these circumstances, there is both challenge and opportunity for governments and for individuals. Canada is seized of the challenge. The Government pledges itself to turn the opportunities to the benefit of individual Canadians.

Members of the House of Commons:

During this session, you will be asked to grant the necessary funds for the services and expenditures authorized by Parliament.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The Prime Minister will lay before you today a list of bills that will be submitted to you during the session.

May Divine Providence guide you in your deliberations.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.