

giving consumers any other benefit that such restraints might justify. The rules of the game do not work that way."

"The solution for poverty lies in your hands since government alone has sovereign powers to effect a more just redistribution of the national product as well as to equalize opportunity. We do not think that the way to accomplish this is by imposing restraints on trade unions whether in the name of preventing inflation or otherwise. Indeed, as we indicate below, your anti-inflationary efforts are likely to lead to an increase in poverty since you seem so readily disposed to accept an increase in unemployment with every indication of equanimity."

The Policy Statement on Poverty said:

"The Canadian Labour Congress in convention declares that the elimination of poverty must be a major goal for Canada. The continued development of natural resources, the introduction of new technological devices, the growth of industry and the increases in productivity must be directed not only at providing greater corporate wealth or improving the incomes of those who are already well off, but must contribute effectively to raising the living standards of those who are segregated, by their lack of means, from the main stream of Canadian life. A major redistribution of the national income is essential with a larger proportion going to those who are classified as being poor."

"Basically, every Canadian, regardless of the causes of his need, should be assured of an income and services which together will provide him with a satisfactory minimum standard of living. Such a guaranteed annual income, progressing with each improvement in the living standards generally, is a proper goal for the government and the people of Canada."

"The provision of a minimum income, however adequate, is not enough. Before large numbers of the poor, the answer lies not in such a minimum but in opportunities to provide for themselves. This requires a policy of full employment, supplemented by adequate minimum wage legislation, strong labour market and manpower policies and by improved programs for regional development and rehabilitation."

New Brunswick Government's action

The New Brunswick Government in 1962 established a Royal Commission on Finance and Municipal Taxation in New Brunswick. The Report was completed in November, 1963 and the Government proceeded with its Program of Equal Opportunity in 1967. The program transferred many of the financial responsibilities and services of the municipalities and fifteen county councils to the provincial government. These services, all relating to people directly, were health, welfare, justice and education.

The quality of services varied from community to community as did the taxation system. The poor areas of the province had an inadequate school system, the highest welfare costs with taxes being assessed on almost everything. The larger municipalities had the better quality of services.

The area that the Government has been concentrating their efforts in since the program was implemented has been in the education system. Regional schools have been developed as well as new university campuses, teachers' colleges, technical and trade schools.

The Government has recently received a report from its Consultants on the delivery of hospital services and some steps have been implemented to improve the administration of justice.

In March of this year the Premier, Honourable Louis J. Robichaud, tabled in the Legislative Assembly a White Paper on Social Development and Social Welfare.

Quoting from the White Paper:

"The program for Equal Opportunity has given New Brunswick the capacity to guarantee to every citizen the right to full participation in social and economic change."

"As in the rest of the world poverty still exists in New Brunswick. An unacceptable large portion of our population has found it beyond their capacity to adjust to new demands for educated, healthy, skilled and mobile workers."

"Some, with proper kinds of assistance, can be returned to self-sufficiency. Others have permanently lost their earning capacities and must rely on society for sustenance."

The White Paper further said:

"There principles will be the foundation of New Brunswick's social development policies of the seventies. There are: