

*Speech from the Throne*

society's economic health and social well-being. There are more measures than I have outlined; there are more measures, indeed, than are outlined in the speech from the throne that will be brought into this integrated whole. Taken all together they are what we hope to do to provide for fuller employment, to encourage the expansion of industry, to help the municipalities to provide needed services, to develop a greater degree of social security for all Canadians, to encourage the investment by Canadians of their savings in Canadian enterprise, to provide for a more stable and prosperous agriculture. These are things we are hoping to do through these measures.

There are other things which I am sure hon. members would like to see us do right away. There are other things I should like to see us do right away. But one can only accomplish a certain number of tasks in a given period of time. Sometimes I think it would perhaps be possible to try to do everything at once and carry out a crash program on every front, but this is not always possible. My own feeling is that in the domestic program we have presented, in the measures I have just been discussing, we have done about as much as is feasible, at least within these first 60 days.

I am particularly pleased that we have emphasized, as indeed the Liberal party has always emphasized, the fundamentally bicultural character of Canada. What we hope to do is to promote and develop this bicultural character of our country. I should like to have seen still greater emphasis on cultural developments generally in Canada. This is one of the things we are concerned about; it is one of the subjects about which we shall have more to say in the near future.

I am still concerned about the state of public health in this country. I do not see how anyone can run for parliament and not be concerned about it. This, too, is a subject with which we shall be dealing as soon as we possibly can. We have taken a big bite, initially, in attempting to restore economic health and social well-being in the measures which we have proposed and which I have been briefly discussing.

Since the kind of measures which will be necessary in this country from now on must inevitably increase the role of government and lead to a greater degree of government regulation and intervention, may I say how glad I am to see toward the end of the speech from the throne a provision for the establishment of a committee on procedure over which you, sir, will be presiding. Certainly, as the positive state becomes more positive and as we move further and further into the era of government regulation, as I suggest

we must do in the collectivist society in which we are living, it becomes essential that we should devise the means whereby we can control executive action through this house—a means whereby we ourselves can understand what is going on and make useful contributions, as well as of seeing that what is being done at the administrative level is being done justly and fairly. I expect it will be the function of this committee to look into these matters, as well as, I hope, revamping the whole committee system of this house, realigning its tasks in such a way as to bring its work more closely in line with the various responsibilities of government. Perhaps after that, in order to ensure the greatest degree of fairness and justice in the administration of complex public policy, we might give consideration to the question of reforms in administrative procedure. It might even be possible to introduce an administrative procedure act. This, I believe, is essential if we are going to pursue the kind of policies which we in this party feel are necessary for Canada.

We must also, of course, remember that we in Canada are not living in isolation, alone in the world. We must always bear in mind that the policies which others are pursuing have a direct bearing on what we do here. I am particularly pleased, therefore, to see the reference in the speech from the throne to what we in this party and in this government hope to do to associate ourselves as closely as we can with developments in other countries and to help to guide the changing relationships between countries in the rest of the world. This will involve changes in trading patterns—changes we have already been hearing about. It will involve us intimately in defence arrangements, as has been the case in the last several years. It will involve us even more than in the past in the activities of the United Nations. It will involve us in efforts to reach some form of disarmament agreement with the other countries of the world. So we must realize that what we do here is but one aspect of what must be done everywhere in the mid-twentieth century, if society as a whole is to advance.

One other point. It is not only the western world which is undergoing change. It is not only the countries of Asia and Africa, even, which are undergoing change. We should also bear in mind that central and eastern Europe, too, are undergoing change—that the whole system of international communism is undergoing change. Indeed, the tendency toward the bipolarization of power which we have known since the second world war may be undergoing change. I hope we may encourage our trading, cultural and other relationships