Without going into detail, I can inform you that our directive orders that four specific steps be taken, in so far as they are practicable. They are:

1. Government departments and agencies are to arrange their construction programmes so that plans and specifications, tender calls, contract awards and the various stages of actual construction will be timed to provide the maximum amount of winter work for the construction trades.

2. Alterations and repairs on buildings, houses and equipment owned by government agencies will be planned so as to be carried out as far as practicable during the winter months.

3. Procurement programmes shall be arranged, where practicable, to create the maximum amount of winter employment.

4. With the objective of keeping increased winter employment in mind each department and agency concerned should, if necessary, adapt its financial arrangements staffs and other related matters in such a manner as to give effect to this directive.

We hope this policy will help ease this problem. We feel that enough has already been done to show that we Canadians need not be economic prisoners of our northern climate. Enough has been done to show that we are as much the victims of ourselves - of our habits and customs, - as of the weather. Enough has been done, I think, to indicate that we Canadians can tame our winter unemployment as we have tamed our rivers, our mountains and the goliath of our space.

This problem is part of the endless challenge of life itself in Canada. It isn't going to be licked by assault from any one front. Federal departments and agencies do spend sums running into the hundreds of millions of dollars annually in the fields involved here, but their spending is only a relatively small part of the national total. What we aim to do should be the aim of governments at all levels and of private enterprise. I am happy to be able to say today that they have made a start, just as we have. But I think I can say of them what I have already said of our federal effort - we have made some progress but it is not enough.