

and the growing size and power of some corporations and some labour unions. A very high priority for this country must be to find a way to settle labour-management disputes with justice, while at the same time avoiding the enormous loss of productivity that strikes are now causing.

The size of governments at all levels, and the impact of their size upon national productivity, cannot escape the spotlight of re-examination. I believe all Canadians want their governments to have adequate strength and power to protect the public interest, and that, therefore, the legislative and regulatory aspects of government activity might well have to increase in the future. But I see no intrinsic reason why governments should stay forever in the business of providing some services that could be provided by the private sector.

No discussion of the challenges we face would be complete without recognition of the fact that the world continues to rest uneasily on the brink of major disasters that could result from a shortage of food. The hungry nations of the world look hopefully to Canada as one of the major suppliers of the food they need. One of our great strengths as a nation is our ability to produce a great abundance of food. That ability confers upon us a unique opportunity to make a major contribution to social justice and political stability in the Third World.

Yet we continue to satisfy our own protein requirements in luxurious and wasteful ways. For example, among the practices we might have to reconsider in the future is the fact that, in company with a very few other wealthy countries, we feed grain instead of grass to some of our cattle in order to achieve a more pleasing meat flavour and texture.

Much of the protein value of the grain is lost in the process. It is simply wasted. Yet, for lack of protein, millions of people in other countries face the daily prospect of malnutrition and starvation.

How long can our consciences ignore the suffering of other human beings? How long will a hungry world tolerate the unthinking and habitual waste of limited food resources? How long can we close our eyes to the international responsibilities imposed upon us by our own wealth and others' needs?

All of the problems I have outlined are very real. All are urgent. All call for an immediate start on a national reassessment of our values, our economic institutions, and the way they serve society.

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