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A time for co-operation and unity of purpose

The Government's intention to continue wage and price controls through the early part of 1978 was announced in the Speech from the Throne read by Queen Elizabeth opening the third session of Canada's Thirtieth Parliament on October 18, the day before she left Canada after her silver jubilee visit. The Queen and Prince Philip were greeted by an estimated crowd of 10,000 on arrival at Parliament Hill in an open landau escorted by a troop of Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The Speech also pointed out that, in the new era which Canada was entering, tension and division or co-operation and unity of purpose was a choice that must be made "by every citizen every day".

An orderly process of decontrol, together with the creation of a monitoring agency will follow the lifting of wage and price controls (see statement by Finance Minister Jean Chrétien on P. 3).

Highlights

Among other proposals contained in the Speech were:

- Introduction of tax-reduction and investment-incentive legislation to stimulate the economy and reduce unemployment.
- Amendment of the Criminal Code to assure the right of accused persons to be tried in the official language of their choice.
- The convening of a national food conference for governments, producers, consumers and the food industry to develop a food strategy.
- The naming of an *ombudsman* to deal with complaints arising from the administration of the Federal Government.
- Proposed measures to improve the national transportation system.
- Endeavours by the Government to help provinces provide constitutional reform proposals to safeguard fundamental rights and freedoms that should be enjoyed by all Canadians.

The Government will also introduce measures to enhance exports and, in co-

operation with the provinces, it hopes to bring in a revised Social Services Act.

National unity

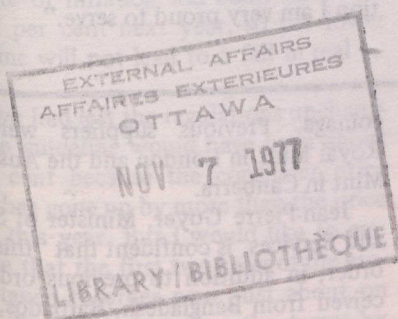
The Speech contained the following passages on national unity:

"So pervasive are economic influences on people's daily lives that failure to secure economic stability and justice would, in itself, stimulate a sense of alienation, mutual hostility, and divisiveness among Canadians. In the context of the current national unity debate, therefore, it is imperative that feelings of linguistic or cultural inequality not be allowed to be further poisoned by evidence of economic injustice. Conversely, there is no doubt that the level of uncertainty evident in Quebec has a negative effect on the economy.

"Few countries are as blessed as Canada, where a wealth of freedom and of this world's goods is apparent for all to see. Perhaps only those who have come here from less fortunate lands can appreciate to the full the great good fortune of living in a country so favoured by nature, and so enriched by its cultural diversity.

"Even in the midst of plenty, however, there are Canadians who know they are not receiving their fair share. To cite just one example, in those parts of the Atlantic Provinces, where unemployment is particularly severe, some see themselves as an excluded group, able to gaze upon the good life only from a distance. There are many living in the West who have contributed much to Canada, yet believe their voice is little heard by others. There are many living in Quebec who feel deeply that Canada at present does not provide them with the opportunity to fulfil their reasonable aspirations. There are native peoples across the land who are still in search of a better life for themselves and their children.

"This discontent in such a wealthy country must find its causes in the human spirit, and it is there also that the unity of



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