

The producer must be ensured a fair income for his work. His confidence in long-term market opportunities is an essential element in the Government's policy. The producer should have access to all markets in Canada. He will also be encouraged to expand food exports.

The consumer must be ensured a fair value from his dollar. He must be protected against disruptive increases in the price of essential foodstuffs caused by international market demand. Guarantees against unduly low prices to producers must be coupled with guarantees against unduly high prices to consumers.

In the long term the continuity of domestic supply must take into account optimum overall land use in Canada and especially the trend to diversion of productive land for non-agricultural purposes. The Government intends to enter into discussions with the provinces since they are vitally involved in this question.

As positive steps in the achievement of adequate supplies of food at a reasonable cost, measures directed in the main at increasing food production will be laid before you in the following areas:

- guaranteed loans and other forms of assistance to both farmers and fishermen to assist them in purchasing or modernizing their equipment;
- amendments to the Export and Import Permits Act to provide the Government with better means to stabilize the Canadian market;
- improving the availability of manpower for food production;
- assistance in the construction of new storage facilities;
- research to make it possible to increase production, improve quality, and lower costs;
- improvements in harbour facilities for fishing fleets;
- incentives to increase Canada's catch of unexploited stocks of fish;
- advance payments on crops to assure producers of timely cash receipts;
- an agricultural stabilization plan to encourage rational production decisions;
- assistance to young farmers to provide sufficient financial incentives for them to establish themselves in farming;
- better veterinary training facilities;
- a prairie grain market insurance plan;
- improvements in Canadian grain rail transportation capabilities;
- increased availability of reasonably priced feed grains;
- incentives to increase the production of livestock necessary to provide for Canadian and export markets.

As part of the Government's economic management, a major element in the policy to mitigate inflation is to increase production and supply: many measures have been indicated with respect to energy and food. Of course, Canadians must strengthen their economy in other ways to expand employment opportunities and achieve a greater degree of control over their economic affairs.

Measures will be proposed to aid small businesses, both financially and by providing better conselling services by the creation of a Federal Business Development Bank. Steps will be taken to ensure further processing of resources in Canada. The Government will encourage the development of the petrochemical industry based on the upgrading of Canadian resources and better access to world markets. Amendments will be proposed to the Bank Act in order to permit provinces to participate in the ownership of banks. An amendment to the Export Development Act will be introduced to encourage further expansion of Canada's foreign trade. Proposals will be made to ensure Canadian control of the computer communications field. Amendments to the Combines Investigation Act, directed at encouraging competition, will be put before you.

The development and use of technology is also essential to the Government's approach to increasing national economic production. Steps will be taken to obtain greater returns from industrial research and development as well as technological innovation in Canada.

Scientific knowledge and its application is a keystone to meeting the challenges facing Canada, including those in the areas of food, energy or industrial development. The objective of the Government's science policy is the rational generation and acquisition of scientific knowledge and the planned use of science and technology in support of national goals. The Ministry of State for Science and Technology will be developing national science objectives as a basis for exercising enhanced advisory and co-ordinating authority within the Government. Two new granting councils will be formed, one for social sciences and humanities and the other for natural sciences.

The Government attaches great importance to regional development. Many of the measures to be introduced during this Session were discussed at the Western Economic Opportunities Conference, and will be of benefit to all areas of Canada. Transportation in particular is a key factor in regional development. A number of measures will be taken in the larger context of ensuring that Canada's transportation capability supports the Government's national goals and is safe and efficient. Steps will be taken to end any discrimination in freight rates. A new ports policy will be developed to ensure an effective and comprehensive port structure in Canada in a framework where a high degree of local involvement in management and improvement of ports can be established.

Other measures will be taken to increase production and employment through providing workers with im-