

they will not let us forget them any longer.

While we must concern ourselves with defence, and while we must support the free forces fighting against aggression, we must lead as many of the world's peoples as we can away from despair, away from the deadening influence of Communism. We must save the peoples of Asia from oppression; we must also do what we can to protect them from exploitation. But while their social systems need reform and while we should help them when we can, their basic problem is simply how to keep alive.

We know how to make the good earth produce abundantly for us; we know how to get the most out of machines. These things we can teach less-privileged peoples. We have technicians that we can send to help them. We have the resources to invest in their future. For they have vast material and manpower reserves and rich human qualities that, with help and understanding, can form the sound beginnings of a happier and more prosperous life.

In assisting these nations through projects like the Colombo Plan and the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme, we are not doling out charity -- we are showing our faith in humanity. We may be sure that they will never forget what we do for them. The political, economic and social development of these other lands is bound to have a profound influence on our own future well-being for it is increasingly evident that countries like ours cannot exist as islands of prosperity in a bankrupt world.

While increasing our defence expenditures and increasing our assistance to friendly nations, every effort must be made to maintain our own social and economic progress. And this brings me to the third aspect of our investment programme -- investing through social action in this nation's citizens.

Social Security -- an Investment in Prosperity

While everyone recognizes the importance of capital investment, it is less commonly realized that there is an important relation between prosperity and investment, through responsible measures for social security, in our human resources.

It has required many years of patient work on the part of Canada's governments to build up a comprehensive system of social security that has not only broad welfare implications but also important economic objectives. In this connection, I should like to emphasize that programmes like Unemployment Insurance, Family Allowances, the Veterans' Charter and prices support for farmers and fishermen are just as much an instrument of fiscal policy as they are an expression of social justice.

A nation thrives on confidence and falters with fear. The principal economic purpose of social measures is to banish fear and restore faith in our economy and in our future.

Social security payments also have an important stabilizing influence by putting a floor under consumer expenditures. A large proportion of the social security payments made by the Canadian Government, in part on its own account and in part in conjunction with the provinces, serves to increase the incomes of individuals or families who without such aid either have no income at all or too little to meet all their essential needs.