

Mind you, we in Canada, who are spending 3 1/2 cents out of every dollar of net national income on social security, do not think that we are on the brink of catastrophe because we devote a somewhat greater proportion of our resources to social security than you do. On the contrary, our social security programme is endorsed in its broad outline by all parties in Canada and is therefore solidly founded on the will of the people.

Social Justice Is Good Business

But there is more to social security than its welfare aspects. Quite apart from their humanitarian objectives, measures for social security have broad economic objectives as well. It is not perhaps commonly realized that there is an important relation between the prosperity of a nation and its investment, through responsible social measures, in its vital human resources.

Programmes like unemployment compensation, old age survivors insurance and aid to dependent children -- to mention a few U.S. measures -- are just as much an instrument of fiscal policy as they are an expression of social justice. Social security payments cannot, of themselves, guarantee prosperity but they can and do have an important stabilizing effect and they strengthen the weak links in a nation's economy by putting a floor under consumer expenditures. Thus, the development of social measures which protect the health and welfare of the individual citizen help to protect the very prosperity dependent on his well-being.

In our planning to prevent any widespread unemployment or the threat of serious economic recession, we should take full account of the major contributions made by social measures in maintaining consumer purchasing power and stimulating business activity. If we failed to recognize that social justice is good business, we would be closing our eyes to one of the most significant lessons of modern times.

Protecting Freedom

President Eisenhower's third great purpose was the protection of freedom. Our freedoms all centre on respect for the freedom, the dignity and the integrity of the individual citizen. Our structure of laws and customs can have no higher purpose than to protect the individual from injustice and tyranny -- regardless of its source -- because a state that does not so respect and defend the rights of its least citizen cannot endure. This applies equally to threats from within and without for, as the Secretary-General of the United Nations reminded us ten days ago in Ottawa:

"Mephistopheles, speaking our own language and walking around in our midst, is more dangerous than the devil we paint on the wall."

Today the free world is threatened by a totalitarian system that denies human dignity and exalts the oppressive power of the state. In Communism's campaign of imperialist aggression there are two distinct threats to freedom as we know it. First there is the physical threat that territories will be seized by force or by treachery as