

The Address—Mr. Robichaud

wealth as has been so clearly indicated, once again, by our representatives at the last session of the United Nations assembly? Has not Canada, as a free country under the clever and wise leadership of our Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson), contributed, perhaps more than any other country to the achievement of the noble goals dictated by the charter of the United Nations? Its objective will insure us as well as mankind as a whole, that useful measures will be taken to lead us towards that era of peace which we are all so much longing for.

Has not Mr. Nehru, prime minister of India, while in Ottawa, declared to a press conference that Canada, in recent conflicts, has been playing a part of paramount importance and has rendered a valuable service by establishing links between the countries of Asia, Europe and America which are all experiencing a strong economic development? That part played by Canada must undoubtedly be put down to the credit of our Prime Minister, of his government and of our energetic and untiring Secretary of State for External Affairs. The goodwill tour of our Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Martin), which will be completed in a few days, after a visit to Pakistan and other countries which receive assistance under the Colombo Plan, is another obvious and glaring proof of our foreign policy aimed at insuring throughout the world a lasting peace based on Christian charity. The main purpose of that visit was to convey to the Asiatic populations in the name of the people and the government of Canada a message of friendship and goodwill. In every country he visited our ambassador of goodwill met an attitude of respect and friendship for the Canadian people. Our representatives, our engineers and experts in the fields of medicine, public health and education who have been sent to those countries have largely contributed to the betterment of conditions there and of the way of life of those peoples.

The speech from the throne recommends the introduction, at this session, of legislation designed to set up a Senate committee on agriculture. We, from the eastern provinces, consider this approach on the part of the government as a very promising one for the future. There is no doubt that a gradual recession of farm income would endanger the continued strength of our general economy. We do not doubt that the changes and developments which have taken place in agriculture these last few years will be a prominent factor in the progress of our nation's industrial growth. The changes occurring both in domestic and in foreign markets basically require an entirely novel adjustment calling for a revision of measures applied so

far with regard to consumption as well as to production. However, we cannot ignore the fact that, during the past year, farm incomes have reached a record figure in our history.

We hope that this committee, whose object will be to contribute effectively to increasing agricultural production and the income of agricultural workers, will take advantage of the opportunity to make a thorough study of the particular position and conditions of the eastern provinces. Our farmers, our New Brunswick agriculturists and especially those of the northernmost districts, recognize that they can no longer make any progress or even make a living unless they are given substantial financial aid so that they may improve or adapt their methods in accordance with the development and modern trends of other industries. They believe, and rightly so, that the regulations, or the interpretation of the Canadian Farm Loan Act do not enable them to obtain the share of loans to which they are entitled. Let us hope that the committee proposed under this new legislation will use its authority and prerogatives to make a thorough study of this problem, one of unequalled importance to the effective development of agriculture in our section of the country.

The whole Canadian people has been pleased to hear the declaration of our Prime Minister on November 12 last, in the speech he made at the national conference on secondary education. The establishment of a Canadian council for the encouragement of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, as was put forward in the speech from the throne, and in accordance with the recommendations of the report of the Massey Commission, will encourage and help voluntary organizations concerned with arts, humanities and social sciences, and will foster our cultural relations with foreign countries. Again, in accordance with this report, it is the intention of the government to introduce a measure designed to vest this council of the arts with another important function. I think that the voting by this house, or rather this parliament, of an additional credit of \$50 million which would be entrusted to the council and distributed over a ten-year period, will help meet that urgent need for capital expenditure which is facing our Canadian universities.

Thanks to private enterprise and a proper national policy, our economic prosperity stands at a record level. The Canadian government realizes that our cultural development must go hand in hand with our economic development. It is the duty of the state to help financially, but without