

*The Address—Mr. Trudeau*

in due time. We must not rely on that. On the other hand, there is no reason either to despair. Cities could very well offer an agreeable environment where work, pleasure and life itself could be satisfying. Why should Canadian cities, like those of some countries, be associated with the paralysing fear that the only mention of the word "city" never fails to inspire, because it has become synonymous with slums, noise, disease, crime and lack of educational and recreational facilities? It is our firm determination that Canadian cities get healthier and fully foster human activities.

The same technology that has produced real miracles in the field of communication and transport, as well as in the advance of applied sciences, remains however the most formidable enemy of a safe biosphere. It is no longer possible from now on to escape the unhealthy consequences of a defective destruction of industrial and domestic wastage and the incomplete combustion of residual products. Nature has shown an astonishing capacity for adjustment and reproduction which is not however unlimited. During the course of evolution, many forms of life have disappeared, because they were unable to adjust to survival conditions or to find a proper environment. Their capacity for adjustment was too slow to lead to a biological transformation in accordance with current requirements. The ingenuity and the pre-eminence of man gave rise however to the illusion that he can remain invulnerable to the effect of those natural laws. However, nothing indicates that mankind can elude the risk of extinction.

Indeed, he has too often used the resources provided by his intelligence and his instinct not so much to accept the challenges confronting him as to challenge his own survival. In so doing he threatens not only his own species but also the whole life on our planet.

The present government is firmly determined that no such acts of madness will be allowed to go on indefinitely, at least in Canada. Together with the aforesaid legislation concerning the protection of the Arctic regions, we shall, in the course of this session, introduce a new bill on Canadian waters to prevent pollution of lakes and rivers, as well as a bill governing the operation of appliances that emit radiations. As we have already indicated this year, a study is being conducted at the present time on the risks involved in car and truck exhaust fumes and on means to correct the situation.

All these measures tend to develop the environment where Canadians work and live. Even if such an environment became idyllic, there still would remain a very important task to perform, a task that will never be completed: guarantee to every citizen a life protected against any undue intervention. The growing influence of large undertakings, of big unions, of a powerful government and of large cities will leave us no respite in that connection. Unemployment is an insult to human dignity, and so is an impersonal welfare system. It is also an indignity to provide insufficient protection to our citizens against criminal activities. Every Canadian should feel proud of himself in the presence of his children and his neighbours and he should be able to rely on every level of the government in this respect. Canadian society does not have an overflow of skills; we cannot therefore afford to waste the smallest contribution that each individual can bring to the country. Our history books are unfortunately teeming with cases where, through misunderstandings brave men have seen their designs fall through, simply because they were thought to be non-conformists and because they refused to share in the ideas and beliefs of the community. We cannot accept a perpetuation of social conditions which push some frustrated and powerless men towards the marginal areas of the law, and sometimes even beyond. Our human resources in this country are not so rich that we can say to anyone that we have no answer to his needs and no solution to his problems.

In short, Mr. Speaker, in this time of research and of change, we must see to it that technological progress does not crush the individual. Our country has traditions of individual liberties and deeds which do not allow us to forget that the denial of one single person's rights denies the rights of each and everyone of us. The action that the government has taken, and that it will take during this session in the legal field, answer to the rightful demands from all the people who feel concerned by the matter. The huge report of the Ouimet Commission on the penal reform is being carefully studied. The minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) has had lengthy discussions with the representatives of the legal world about the amendments he intended to bring to the Criminal Code as regards bail and electronic eavesdropping.

A bill to institute a committee for the reform of the law will be introduced during this session, so that the federal acts, and the scope of their provisions, should constantly be