

the longer term bond market, it is most desirable to keep our maturing debt reasonably spread out over the years. To refinance maturing issues chiefly in the short term market would only build up greater difficulties for ourselves two or three years hence. It will be our aim to offer acceptable volumes of longer term bonds whenever suitable opportunities occur, and to spread the remainder sensibly between short and mid-term maturities.

While the prospective increase in our debt will be quite substantial during the next year or two, the net burden of the public debt will remain well below what we carried quite easily only a few years ago. While our net debt at the end of this year is higher than it was at any time during the past ten years, its burden while measured as a percentage of our gross national product will be significantly lower than it was three years ago.

The raising of a total of approximately \$3,400 million by the sale of bonds or other securities is indeed a formidable undertaking. We hope to do it without causing an undue strain upon the financial resources of the Canadian investment market and with due consideration of the needs of provinces, municipalities and business in the same market. Moreover, the policy of the government has naturally been to seek to do its financing at the most favourable interest rates. In short, in the light of all these factors we shall need the fullest possible co-operation on the part of investment institutions and dealers, and I appeal to your patriotism as well as your good business sense in seeking your co-operation in this task.

Together we shall be offering to the Canadian people the best security in the world -- an opportunity to invest in Canada.

S/A