

ures implemented by the Government because it would have been time-consuming. Allow me simply to underline some of those achievements of vital importance for the welfare of Canadians. First, there is this determined fight against pollution under all its aspects. Long before pollution became political issue, the Government had already started to study, and then to implement the measures likely to put an end to the destruction of our natural environment.

It would also take considerable time to stress the importance of some changes of an administrative and executive nature as a result of which the Government is better prepared and better equipped to meet the needs of a diversified and sophisticated society.

From reading the Speech of His Excellency, it can be noted that the Government is clearly determined to keep on running the country with that very spirit and for those very objectives.

As the Government wanted and managed to give rise to meaningful discussions among the Canadian people through the publication of white papers, so an impressive number of committee reports will be tabled for Parliament's consideration during this session. Through the impressive list of bills put on the order paper after the speech of His Excellency the Governor General, the Government proved their intention to continue to propose solutions to the country that will be tempered by a deep awareness of facts.

First of all, in the field of urban living, the setting up of a ministry of state for urban affairs and of another one for pollution will greatly help rationalize the efforts of the various governments towards radically checking the destruction of our ecological environment.

On the other hand, parliamentary reform will fit rightly in the government objective of achieving a reasonable degree of efficiency in the administration of our country, while ensuring that Parliament remains the instrument *par excellence* in the daily workings of our democracy.

An impressive group of legislation will establish clearly the close relation that must exist between the two fundamental objectives of social justice and national unity. The white paper on Indian Policy and the report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism will be implemented.

[English]

Honourable senators, the Speech from the Throne can be seen as a manifesto for the seventies. It states that:

The passing of the sixties and the beginning of the seventies remind us that Canada faces a new age; an age which will be subject to forces not all of which are yet comprehended or understood, forces which will proceed from external as well as internal origins.

The speech goes on:

There exists in Canada a great wealth of untapped and uncoordinated scientific talent and experience not now adequately utilized in the quest for solutions

[Hon. Mr. Giguère.]

to our modern problems. In order to serve better the industrial and technological sectors of our economy, as well as Canada at large, a programme will be introduced to gather and focus these sometimes divergent and competitive scientific resources. In this respect the Government will consider with care measures recommended by the Senate Committee on Science Policy and the Science Council of Canada.

As a member of this Senate committee, I welcome the declared intention of the Government. Research and development activities have a vital contribution to make not only to our national economic growth but also to improvement in the quality of life. Some people argue that we have neglected this quality of life in our eagerness to seek affluence and to increase the gross national product.

I do not agree with this assertion. We are spending billions and billions every year to solve our social problems and to meet our collective needs. We have been wrong, however, in our belief that the mere spending of huge sums of money could solve these difficulties. We are building every year more schools, more universities; we are providing for an easier access to education. And yet, we have more student unrest and more parents being worried because they feel that their children are not getting an adequate preparation for real life.

We are devoting large budgets to improve housing conditions, but our cities are becoming more and more crowded and inhuman. We are spending over three billions every year on social security, but the poor are becoming relatively poorer and more and more restless as they live, through television or otherwise, closer to affluence. We are building more hospitals and providing for free hospitalization and better medical care, but a greater number of people die of incurable diseases and the mysterious diseases of the mind are spreading.

Again, I want to stress that we have not neglected the problems raised by the quality of life, but it seems that we have approached them in the wrong way, as if money and more money would suffice to solve them. Our obvious failure to cope with them effectively forces us to recognize that we do not even understand the true nature and the real dimensions of most of these difficulties. In other words, we are just beginning to realize that we have seriously neglected to support research and development activities in these crucial sectors. No wonder they still remain so mysterious and so frustrating to us.

Yet, as we are awakening to the urgent need for more research and development for social and collective purposes, we should not repeat the mistake of the past and think that this tragic gap of knowledge and understanding will be filled simply by devoting more money to science activities. We do not only need more research; we need good research. In other words, as the Speech from the Throne says, we must "gather and focus these sometimes divergent and competitive scientific resources" to serve better Canada at large.

If there is something that the Senate Committee on Science Policy has learned, it is that in our modern