

Speech from the Throne

harmonious fiscal relationship between the Federal government and the governments of the ten provinces. Legislation will be introduced, therefore, proposing the renewal and improvement of equalization arrangements, increasing to 100 percent the level of stabilization of provincial revenues, and a number of other items. These will include the administration on behalf of requesting provinces of succession duties and gift taxes, the extension for two years of the transfers to provinces respecting post-secondary education, the provision of a five-year revenue guarantee to provinces to protect their income tax revenues under the new system, and the sharing with provinces of the special tax on undistributed corporate income.

As a further protection against the isolation of individuals caused by economic deprivation, the fundamental reform of protective measures which commenced last year with the new Unemployment Insurance Act will continue. A new Canada Labour Code, reflecting the many representations received in past months, will be introduced as will important amendments to the Fair Employment Practices Act. The Canada Manpower programmes will be improved and additional steps will be taken to make the training and placement services adequate to the needs of specially disadvantaged people whose particular problems present challenges which cannot be met with the use of regular programme resources or techniques. For those persons seeking to further their education, the loan limits under the Canada Student Loans Act will be raised, permitting students to borrow more within a given year and increasing significantly the total amount available under the programme.

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The isolation which a product of social injustice is less well understood than that which comes from economic denial. Nevertheless, its consequences dare not be ignored by any society. The irony of isolation in an urban surrounding cannot be resolved by any single act. One essential, however, is the provision of adequate housing of high standard to all Canadians. More dwelling units were started in 1971 than in any single year in our history, including a record number for lower income families. It is clear, however, that Canada's housing needs cannot be met only through increases in scale. What is required, and what the Government will be proposing, are fresh concepts, continuing research, and imagination in neighbourhood improvement with emphasis on the need for low cost housing.

In order to achieve our goal of full participation by all members of society, all barriers leading to isolation must be removed. We cannot invite respect for our laws and support for our institutions from persons to whom they are irrelevant or ineffective. Government activities must reflect the needs of all Canadians, not only the favoured. A giant step in this direction was taken with the adoption last session of tax reform legislation which spreads more evenly the burden of social services on those Canadians best able to bear it. Another step, and long overdue, consists of policies to ensure the equality of women in Canadian society. These will be announced this session.

Protective steps will be proposed in a number of areas of wide concern to Canadians—the non-medical use of drugs, compensation for victims of crime, and the protection of privacy. Progress toward more humane treatment of offenders will continue with further reforms in the penal and parole systems. Amendments will be proposed for reforms in the administration of the criminal law. The Government is committed as well to federal participation in legal aid subject to satisfactory cost-sharing and administrative details being worked out.

It is the view of the Government that the most important single factor in the attainment of individual dignity and active social involvement is the assurance of a secure income. Considerable progress towards the goal of a total income security programme for all Canadians is achieved in the new Family Income Security Plan bill which will be presented for your consideration. The emphasis in this plan is on protection and is consistent with the Government's belief in the strong sense of self-reliance of Canadians.

The pride with which Canadians regard this country and which inspires them to identify with it springs from many sources. Some of these are physical in nature, some cultural, still others are economic. Canadians find in the vast spaces of this land, in its rugged coasts, in its throbbing vitality and in its serene tranquility something of themselves. It is the intention of the Government that immense areas of Canada be preserved in their natural state for the enjoyment of this generation and of generations to come. For the first time some of the grandeur and the wilderness which is Canada's north will be guaranteed perpetual preservation through incorporation into the National Parks System. You will be asked to approve legislation which will create three new parks north of the 60th parallel, each as large and as spectacular as any in the world. These three parks, plus the seven new parks created since 1968, mean that for the first time in our history every province and territory will include within it a national park for the benefit of our people.

Companion legislation will be introduced to provide wildlife habitats and to protect certain endangered wildlife species.

While taking care to preserve for the future, we should, wherever possible, preserve and restore those achievements of the past which are an essential element in our self-understanding as a people. You will be asked to consider, therefore, a bill creating and endowing a corporation to be known as Heritage Canada which will go far to ensure the preservation of items and collections from Canada's past and to make these accessible for the enjoyment and understanding of Canadians in all parts of the country. Heritage Canada, complemented by a broadened National Museums policy, will demonstrate the achievements of our fore-fathers and their successes in overcoming physical isolation and in converting dreams into reality.

Still another form of isolation springs from indifferent communications services. It is a matter of concern to the Government that at this moment many communities do not receive the national broadcasting service and that some one million Canadians in 260 communities receive no television service in their own language. The Government proposes, therefore, that the C.B.C. be authorized to extend its services in a comprehensive fashion and to utilize the capabilities of Canada's pioneer satellite communications system to assure within a five year period that at least 98 percent of Canadians are served.

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The standards against which a society is judged by others and by history are often those chosen by the society itself. The image it projects, the values to which it adheres, the treatment it accords the disadvantaged in its midst; these are matters for each society to determine, and in determining to be judged. In our relations with one another, in federal-provincial relations, in Canada's relations with other countries, our values are both guides and distinguishing features. Canada is committed to the betterment of life for all, to the resolution of differences by reason not force, to the practice of tolerance, to the acceptance of love and understanding as the most important of human traits. The Government, therefore, will continue to participate fully in international efforts for peace and for the well-being of people everywhere. It will continue to do what it can on behalf of the Canadian people to assist those who are afflicted by calamities, both natural and man-made.

The fluidity in world affairs marked by events in the past months and those expected in the near future present to us an opportunity to deepen and enrich our relationships with our old friends and to seek and strengthen friendships with others both within and without the councils and agencies of the United Nations. Isolation within the international community is as barren and damaging as is isolation within a domestic society. The visits to Canada in 1971 of such distinguished Heads of State and Government as the Presidents of Yugoslavia, Nauru and Niger, and the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, Ceylon, Ghana, Malaysia, Fiji, Senegal, and Israel illustrate the universality of Canada's attitude to the world.

Canada's lines of communication and understanding continue to stand open in all directions. In particular, our ties with our friends in the new Europe and our attachment to the United States remain of the greatest importance. A United States which is strong,