

cultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act. You approved Operation Lift which brought financial relief to hard-pressed farmers by reducing production costs and stockpiles of grain.

You provided further assistance towards the education of our young people when you enacted amendments to the Children of War Dead (Education Assistance) Act and to the Canada Student Loans Act.

Constantly aware of the need to maintain high standards of health for the people of Canada, you enacted amendments to the Canada Shipping Act (Part V) and you passed the Quarantine Act. Deep concern about the harmful effects on the individual and society of the non-medical use of drugs moved the Government to receive the Interim Report of the Commission of Inquiry into this controversial subject.

By enacting the Statute Law (Supplementary Retirement Benefits) Amendment Act 1970, you provided more adequate pensions for public servants who have devoted their energies to the service of our nation.

Consistent with Canada's desire to strengthen the effectiveness of the United Nations, the Government submitted proposals for the procedural and organisational reform of the General Assembly. In the world body, Canadian representatives exercised a leading role in negotiations to achieve international agreement on the peaceful use of the seabed and ocean floor.

Following a comprehensive review of Canada's external relations, the Government continued to undertake new diplomatic initiatives in different parts of the world. A ministerial mission was dispatched to the Caribbean and negotiations were continued with the representatives of the People's Republic of China with the aim of establishing formal diplomatic relations with that government. Consistent with its desire to give full expression to two official languages and to exchange cultural and technological information with the francophonie, the Government ratified the Convention of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation among French-speaking countries.

The Prime Minister visited with Secretary-General U Thant at the United Nations. The Government's desire to expand diplomatic and trade relations with the countries of the Pacific rim was illustrated by the Prime Minister's visit to New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Japan, including Expo '70 at Osaka.

The Prime Minister and his colleagues received a number of leaders of other countries, including the President of Cameroun; the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; the Premier of the British Honduras; and the Foreign Ministers of Israel, Upper Volta, and Turkey.

In order to assist the under-developed nations of the world, you have increased the total aid budget by sixteen per cent and undertaken to increase this budget year by year. You have enacted legislation creating the International Development Research Centre so that methods of assistance might be studied and improved.

The past year has been marked by an abatement of inflationary pressures. This was the direct result of the Government's economic policies and the strict control it has exercised over its own expenditures. Rising costs, however, con-