

with our income tax structure which provides exemptions for children in the families of our income taxpayers, recognizes the differences which exist in the size of the family responsibilities which our various wage earners or primary producers have to bear.

With Family Allowances, Unemployment Insurance, the Veteran's Charter and our farm prices support program as the basis of our structure, we can build co-operatively in this country, through the medium of provincial and local public assistance programs and more comprehensive national programs of insurance and security, a network of social security provisions which will stand in good stead as a solid secondary measure of support, together with our basic and fundamental economic measures designed to provide a high level of employment for the industrial worker and farm security for the rural third of our population.

These three broad levels of protection,-

1. High level of employment at adequate wage levels (or adequate prices for primary products), together with family allowances;

2. Social Insurance fully developed;

3. Public assistance on the level of need, - will, in my opinion, accomplish the objective that we seek of economic security for our Canadian people. It should be by this standard that we judge the adequacy of what we have developed to date in Canada. It should be equally by this standard that we measure the gaps that still exist and plan our programs for the future.

THE RECORD OF TWENTY YEARS

In the last twenty years Canada has gone a long way in the direction of establishing an adequate social welfare program. An impressive list of social security measures have been established both by the provinces and the Federal Government. Old Age Pensions and Pensions for the blind, workmen's compensation (a provincial measure) and a comprehensive program of public health and health measures have been developed. We have seen the establishment and extension of measures such as -- child and maternal health care, industrial health and accident prevention, drug control and proprietary medicine protection.

We have dealt with certain organic aspects of social security for the family -- the home -- employment -- welfare and health. We have seen the establishment of the Unemployment Insurance Act, Family Allowances, Veterans Legislation and the National Housing Act. We must consider, too, the whole range of our farm program -- agricultural prices support, farm loans, farm improvements which have raised the economic and productive level of our farm communities.

In the same relations we must consider the basic part of a social security program the stabilization measures of which have been undertaken.

Controlling increases in the cost of living is as much a part of a social security program as unemployment insurance, old age pensions, or mothers' allowances.

Reference should be made to the fact that today all nine Canadian provinces have a Department of Public Welfare established on a permanent basis and the Federal Government has, also, established a Department of Public Welfare which is allied with the Department of National Health. On three levels of Government -- local, provincial and federal -- we are making progress in the field of social welfare. Through the development of a local and provincial child welfare program, provincial Mothers' Allowance program, the setting up of Provincial Workmen's Compensation which provides protection in the case of industrial accident and disease, as well as general relief programs and the provision of hospital and medical care