

*The Address—Mr. MacInnis*

given Canada in this office. This representation has been exemplified in a comment by the premier of Sweden who said:

Of all the world leaders, the man in the forefront of the fight for disarmament is the Hon. Howard Green.

Here we are today the elected representatives of the people gathered in a free parliament and here we are as a parliament facing problems which are bound to solve not only economic problems but, most important, human problems. Surely, Mr. Speaker, we may prove at this session that there is no limit to what democracy can accomplish. Surely at this session we can again disprove the cynics who claim that economic misfortunes, poverty and unemployment are endemic in our system.

In facing and solving our problems, these human problems, as a free parliament we will contribute, not only to the welfare and the progress of our own country but we will once again show the world what democratic institutions can contribute to human betterment. I believe that this government and this parliament are possessed of the will to solve these problems; they will find the way.

In the optimism of opening day all of us entertain high hopes that this arrangement will work, as it is intended to work, to enable us to spend more time in our respective constituencies. Members of all parties are concerned lest prolonged absence from our constituencies should cause a rift between what an hon. member of the opposition has called the brass and the grass. If we prorogue, as I trust we will, earlier in the summer than usual, I hope many hon. members will avail themselves of the opportunity to visit Cape Breton and enjoy its scenic pleasures while at the same time contributing something practical to the prosperity of our tourist industry.

The throne speech indicates the government's intentions. It proposes measures, both immediate and long term, to promote the development and expansion of our economy; measures of an immediate nature, to which I will refer later, including a large program of winter works, national housing stimulus, public works program and long range measures destined to achieve economic stability. It foresees the establishment of a productivity council which would include membership from among industry, labour, agriculture and Canada's distinguished scientists and economists. The chief aim of the council would be to increase the productivity of our primary and secondary industries. Such increased productivity would strengthen Canada's trading position.

[Mr. MacInnis.]

Measures are also foreseen to assist small businesses to expand and meet their growing needs. Added credit facilities for small businesses will mean new capital investment in the near future, thus contributing to the creation of new jobs, and also place small business, generally, on a sounder financial footing. This should improve the position of secondary industry, and help the purchase by Canadians of more Canadian products.

A very forward looking measure provides for the training and retraining of workers. This will be a useful step in combatting the effects of technological and structural unemployment. This has been one of the paradoxes concerning unemployment in Canada, that while the figures are high there are thousands of jobs that remain unfilled because of lack of qualified personnel.

Canadians will be encouraged to participate more widely in the ownership and control of industry and resources in Canada. Unions will be required to disclose information when they are controlled from outside Canada. Similar provisions will apply to operations in regard to Canadian subsidiaries of foreign corporations.

The government is aware of the need to improve physical fitness, especially among the youth of the country, and means will be placed before parliament for encouraging participation in amateur athletics. World prestige among nations today is often measured by their success in international sports events. It is hoped that such a program will permit Canada to rise to a position of prominence in the near future. We have a healthy nation for a basis and should attain the success which has been sadly lacking in all sports with the exception of hockey.

The principle of the Prime Minister's suggested international food bank has been accepted by the United Nations and, if implemented, will help to create a more equitable distribution of world food supplies. From the Canadian point of view it constitutes a very good way to deal with some of our agricultural surpluses, which is beneficial not only to the nations that receive them but also to the general health of our agricultural industry.

By almost any standard you care to use, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian economy is prosperous, progressive and dynamic. The gross national product has reached record heights. In 1960 there have been more persons employed in Canada than ever before and they are earning more than ever before. They are saving more than they ever have. Canada's exports and Canada's imports are at a record level. Canada's total trade is at a record level. Farm cash income, including supplementary payments, is higher. The