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Ministry has taken in hand all problems of youth and of the family. Under its protection youth will receive, regardless of all differences of class and inclination and in an atmosphere of fraternal collaboration, a moral and physical education adapted to all the exigencies of the French renaissance. Labour will have its dignity and its prerogatives restored. Appropriate financial and economic legislation will strengthen the attachment of the peasant to the soil. The ideal of the fatherland will be re-established as a pre-eminent and integral part of daily instruction in schools. Particular interests will be subordinated to it.

The work of reform which has been undertaken will be neither the result of a circumstantial improvisation, nor a premature copy of the totalitarian regimes of our neighbours.

It will conserve in their place the moral values as well as the human realities on which Christian civilization rests.

With reference to my immediately preceding telegram:

The first of these reforms is constitutional and governs all of the succeeding ones. Acting within its powers, the National Assembly at Vichy on July 10th (by 569 votes to 80) gave to Marshal Petain the task "of promulgating by one or several acts a new constitution for the French State". (Constitutional Law of July 10th, 1940).

The French State is now incarnate in the person of a Chief especially designated by a law interpreting the deepest desires of the nation. (Conforme au vœu le plus manifeste de l'opinion.) It is henceforth the task of this Chief to erect the new constitution and to put it into operation according to the national interest. In expressing their ultimate vote, the Chambers elected by the nation have formally invited the nation to sanction this reform as soon as circumstances will permit it and thus approve the abolition of the old regime and the creation of the new regime so that the acts based on the law of 10th July will follow one another logically.

By Constitutional Act No. 1, Marshal Petain assumes the functions of Chief of the French State. Act No. 2 defines these functions. They include the nomination and dismissal of Ministers and Secretaries of State responsible to the Marshal as well as the appointment of all civil and military servants in cases where such appointments are not otherwise provided for. They permit the control of the army, the right to declare territory under martial law, the right of pardon and of armistice as well as the power to negotiate and ratify treaties with foreign countries with diplomatic representatives regularly accredited to the Chief of State. Finally, the Chief of State is not limited to the promulgation and execution of laws; he holds legislative power in ministerial council in cases of external attention or of grave internal crises and, in the present circumstances, until the formation of new legislative assemblies. The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, adjourned today, will continue in existence during this time but will only re-assemble on convocation by the Chief of State. (Act No. 3).