

*Prorogation of Parliament*

Act and have passed the Dominion Coal Board Dissolution Act. To offer protection from possible hazards resulting from the development of our energy resources, you have passed the Nuclear Liability Act.

In addition to your actions for the responsible development of our resources and preservation of our environment, you have enacted legislation intended to protect and assist the consumer and improve the quality of our life. You have passed the Textile Labelling Act, the Radiation Emitting Devices Act and the Standards Council of Canada Act. You have received for consideration Proposals for Metric Conversion in Canada in order that our country can study the advantages of adopting this widely accepted basis for international measurement and standardization. You have enacted the Motor Vehicle Safety Act, a measure which will make more secure, travel on our highways, and assist in combatting air pollution in our cities.

Protection of the fundamental liberties of all Canadians was extended by amendments to the Criminal Code with respect to hate propaganda, and by the passage of the Expropriation of Land Act. By enacting the Criminal Records Act, and amendments to the Supreme Court Act, you provided for more effective and enlightened reform of offenders and for the better administration of justice. In order that our laws can be reviewed more comprehensively and made to respond more quickly to the needs of a rapidly changing society, you passed the Law Reform Commission Act.

You have taken steps to assist the farmers of Canada by enacting the Prairie Grain Provisional Payment Act 1969-70 and amendments to the Agricultural 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 francophone, 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, continue to jeopardize price stability and the Government must not relax its efforts to bring about a greater consistency between future cost increases and productivity growth.

Favourable balance of payment trends led to a strengthening of the Canadian dollar. Upward pressure on the dollar intensified this year and on May 31, 1970, the Canadian dollar was allowed to seek its natural level. The Canadian Government declared, however, that it intended to resume its obligations under the IMF articles of agreement when circumstances would permit.

You have continued in your efforts to eliminate regional economic disparities and to encourage the development of our economy. You have enacted amendments to the Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act. You have also enacted amendments to the Small Business Loans Act, to the Quebec Savings Bank Act, to the Foreign Insurance Companies Act, the Trust Companies Act, the Loans Companies Act and to the Canadian and British Insurance Companies Act.

You have made provision for a more just and equitable administration of our financial and commercial affairs by enacting amendments to the Bills of Exchange Act and the Canada Corporations Act.

Committees of both the House of Commons and the Senate have considered the Government's Proposals for Tax Reform and have made recommendations thereon. Committees in the Senate have continued their studies of the mass media, of poverty, and of science policy. In the House of Commons, committees have studied a great variety of matters including veterans' pensions, interest rates, external affairs, defence policy, electronic eavesdropping, and unemployment insurance.

The Constitutional Conference continued the difficult task of seeking a national political con-