

federal activities in relation to international and national programmes would complement and supplement those of the provinces.

#### CO-OPERATION OF PROVINCES

"In this connection, we are very anxious to assist with joint projects organized and administered by the provinces on a basis that is acceptable to them. Certainly -- and I want to make this abundantly clear -- the Dominion Government will be most careful in respecting the rights of the provinces and of local governments in this field, for we are fully aware that, if the programme is to succeed, it must enjoy the whole-hearted support of the provinces and, through them, of municipal authorities as well as of local groups within communities themselves.

"There is one further point I would make in relation to the programme's scope. The new undertaking will not be concerned solely with the gifted athlete who may be in a position to take part in national and international competitions. It will also be concerned with fitness and sports programmes for the great mass of our population. And here I would stress that even the large sum being made available under this programme represents but a small part of the total effort required to develop well-balanced recreational activities across Canada....

"...Canadian participation in international competitive events is emerging as an important aspect of a growing spirit of nationhood. In the representations made to the Government over the past few years, strong desire has been expressed to see government financial aid provided to assist our athletes in competition abroad.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

"...Turning to the specific objectives of the bill, the House will note that there is provision of assistance for the promotion and development of Canadian participation in national and international amateur sport."

"...In the past, many Canadian athletes with real potential have not had an opportunity to develop to their fullest extent because of the lack of facilities and qualified coaching. Others have not found it possible to pursue amateur sports beyond local competitions even though they may have had the ability to enter national and international sport events. We would hope that, when this programme fully develops, it will offer greater opportunities for persons with athletic ability to participate to the utmost in athletic pursuits of their choice.

"In extending greater assistance to Canadian participation in international sporting events, we are merely doing what many other nations have done over the years, and we would hope that this will help assure a greater measure of parity for our athletes in relation to their fellow competitors from other countries.

#### AMBASSADORS OF GOODWILL

"In taking this action, we are also recognizing the fact that Canadians who compete in the Olympics, the British Empire and Commonwealth Games, the

Pan-American Games, and other international championship competitions are ambassadors of goodwill for Canada. In this connection, it should be noted that support by the Dominion Government must carry with it a responsibility on the part of our athletes. Canada will expect them to exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship on all occasions.

"In developing a formula for federal aid with respect to international competitions, we will need the advice of the Agencies which organize such events -- the Canadian Olympic Association, the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Association, and the Pan-American Games Committee. In addition, other sports-governing bodies covering fields not included in these events are concerned in Canadian participation abroad and these, together with the Canadian Sports Advisory Council, will I am sure, all have valuable suggestions on how federal support might be provided on an equitable basis. Here, certainly, is an area where the advice of the new National Council will be of particular importance.

#### FITNESS FOR THE YOUNG

"Besides assisting Canada's gifted athletes, the new programme will give major emphasis to promoting amateur sports and fitness for all our young people.

"Much of the development in this area has centred around community and school athletic programmes and so comes within the jurisdiction of provincial and municipal governments. Accordingly, we will be looking to the provinces for suggestions and guidance in this field. Having in mind the valuable experience we have already had in working with provincial authorities under programmes such as the National Health Grants, Vocational Training and Vocational Rehabilitation, I have no doubt that it will be possible to work out mutually satisfactory arrangements without much difficulty.

#### NEED FOR MORE FACILITIES

"In promoting wider participation in amateur sport and recreation, there is a need for more facilities of both the indoor and outdoor variety. Here the Federal Government plans to move forward in a number of ways to assist with expansion and development.

"I might mention, first, that the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources will continue to give considerable attention to the expansion of recreational facilities in National Parks.

"Secondly, there is the important federal contribution being made through the Municipal Winter Works Programme in the construction of recreational facilities across Canada. Through the co-operative effort of the various levels of government, the Department of Labour can approve projects covering the construction of community rinks, community swimming pools and playgrounds, stadia and playing fields, as well as other recreational facilities. In the last fiscal year, outlays under this programme amounted to some \$15 million, of which the Federal Treasury paid \$3,800,000 for parks, playgrounds and other recreational facilities. Thus, while the main objective of

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