

agencies, and by measures to encourage more investment in research and development in the private sector.

Energy policies will be introduced to provide consumers with the benefits of competition in supply, a responsible approach to the development of energy resources, and an active programme to conserve and improve efficiency in the use of energy.

Steps will be taken to revive confidence in New Zealand enterprise by the development and introduction of effective and fair commercial laws to protect both investors and borrowers.

To stimulate improvements in the quality of goods and services and ensure fair treatment of consumers, the Government will give high priority to reviews of the Sale of Goods Act 1908 and consumer credit legislation.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, in order to promote improved productivity, income and employment, my Government will introduce legislation before Christmas to provide more flexible industrial relations processes.

The industrial relations reform will enable employers and employees to decide for themselves how they wish to negotiate wages and conditions of employment and resolve disputes. Membership of unions will be voluntary. Employees will be able to choose who bargains on their behalf and who represents them in disputes.

My Government recognises the need to help people develop the appropriate skills required by a growing, changing economy. Training, retraining and work experience in projects providing positive service to the community will become a more substantial component of employment programmes.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS, my Government's goals for education include a new programme, "Parents as First Teachers", which will help parents to fulfil their role in nurturing the intellectual and physical development of their children through the vital years from birth to age three.

In schools, the Government will affirm the importance of the core subjects and take initiatives to improve achievement levels.

All school leavers will be guaranteed access to tertiary education through the "Study Right" programme, and my Government will, in 1992, abolish the tertiary tuition fee.