



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
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No. 53/13 CANADA -- THIS CENTURY'S BEST INVESTMENT

An address by the Minister of National Health and Welfare Mr. Paul Martin, made to the Hamilton Junior Chamber of Commerce, March 16, 1953.

Canada is a Going Concern

Tonight my talk is about investment. I want to recommend investment in one of the soundest, fastest-growing enterprises in the world -- this country of ours.

Canadians are going places because they face their destiny with determination and open minds. We recognize, of course, that today all our future progress and prosperity depends on our success in maintaining peace in the world. From my work at the United Nations, I know how resolutely Canada and the other free nations are striving to find a satisfactory formula for lasting peace. While continuing our efforts at the UN and strengthening our participation in NATO, at home our country is enjoying its greatest burst of economic activity.

Yes, Canada is a going concern and its 15,000,000 shareholders are even now drawing rich dividends on the work and the savings they have put into its development. But present returns are as nothing compared with the long-range prospects for the future!

Let me give you four or five reasons why our stock is so high:

- Since 1939 our population has increased by 4,000,000 and is continuing to grow at the rate of 500,000 a year;
- During this same period, however, our total national output has been multiplied four times over!
- Since the war, \$25 billions -- one-fifth of our total production -- has been ploughed back into the economy for new investment;
- This tremendous volume of investment has made our rate of industrial expansion the highest in the world!

Our Prosperity is Soundly Based

Canada is today experiencing a period of growth and prosperity unrivalled in our history. No matter what indicator is applied -- whether it be national income, foreign trade, employment or investment -- 1952 has been a record year and the prospects for the year ahead are just as bright.