

*The Address—Mr. Diefenbaker*

States. With regard to corporate profits, Canadian corporation profits before taxes and after dividends to non-residents were very considerably higher, some 16.5 percentage points higher, than in the United States.

Therefore, sir, I summarize by saying that, measured by the six indicators of recovery, Canada has made greater economic progress since early 1961 than has the United States.

I could go on and read further details in that connection. I should mention the question of trade. I think what has been done by the Minister of Trade and Commerce in that regard has been phenomenal. So far as exports and imports are concerned, total Canadian commodity trade for the first six months of this year was the largest in any year in Canada's history and exceeds the comparable 1961 figure by 13 per cent. Today the export figures are available with regard to July. To bring the matter right up to date:

Exports again show an encouraging rise to \$547 million in July this year against \$518 million in 1961. Most significantly perhaps the sharpest increases are occurring in our shipments to the United States which are being maintained at a level of 20 per cent above last year.

A moment ago mention was made of devaluation. In the light of experience since that policy came into effect, I am sure everyone must agree that the course taken by this government in connection with devaluation has been a tremendous boom to our exporters and at the same time has provided basic help to Canadian industry within Canada to produce those things which are needed in Canada and which otherwise would not be produced.

I now come to a subject which was not dealt with by the Leader of the Opposition. I refer to the subject of agriculture. The mid-September forecast of the 1962 production of Canada's principal field crops is highly encouraging. Prices have increased to such an extent that in every part of Canada farmers are receiving more for their production than they could have hoped for a matter of a few years ago. There are some who would say, "Oh, carry me back to 1957". I know what the answer of the farmers would be to that suggestion, as farm cash income from farm operations reached an all time high, namely \$2,958½ million, 6.4 per cent above the level of 1960 and \$385 million above that of 1957, an increase of 15 per cent.

**Mr. Teillet:** Would the Prime Minister permit a question?

**An hon. Member:** Sit down.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I mention some farm prices, those of grain, as compared with 1957. For no. 1 northern wheat there is a gain of 35½ cents per bushel, a 21.7 per cent increase; rye, 44¾ cents per bushel; oats, 25¾

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cents per bushel; barley, 38½ cents per bushel. Prices of cattle and calves have increased approximately 26 per cent during that period of time. Dairy products including milk show a gain of 27 cents per hundredweight or 6.1 per cent, and the price of creamery butterfat is up 11.3 per cent.

**Mr. Teillet:** Will the Prime Minister now answer a question?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** When I finish my sentence the hon. member may ask a question. This is the picture. This is the reason that with studied disregard to one of the major elements in Canada's economy for many hundreds of thousands of people, last evening and yesterday in that marathon effort not one word was said about this subject by the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Teillet:** Will the Prime Minister define fully for the house what he means by cash income?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** All I can say is that I think it defines itself for most hon. members.

I now come to another matter in connection with agriculture. As the house knows, for several years I have advocated a food bank. When I brought this matter before the NATO heads of state in December 1957—I refer to the matter of setting up a NATO food bank—because over the years it has been impossible to secure an international one, I remember that I did not receive much support although a section was incorporated in the communique. Now, largely as a result of Canadian initiative, the matter has come before the general assembly of the United Nations, which has unanimously endorsed the plan. This constitutes an attempt to ease human hunger, and is tangible evidence of the necessary advance that must be made among all nations. Those of us who have must endeavour to raise standards among those who have not, for everywhere in the world communism marches on empty stomachs.

I am glad to see that this action has taken place. In many international forums we advocated this step. On September 5 in New York about 30 other nations joined Canada in pledging 86 per cent of the necessary objective for the experimental period. Canada will provide one third of her pledge to the program in cash. These pledges were made in cash, commodities and transport services.

When I think of the tremendous volume of wheat that was on hand when we came into office and the equally tremendous competition among producing nations to dispose of their wheat, I believe that everywhere across