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"Do you realize that another five years brings us to 1950? I confess it came as a shock to me when I thought about 1945 and 1950. What this world will witness in those next five years God alone knows. We can only pray that it will not compare with the last five years. Will anyone view this world today without feeling a deep concern as to what lies before us? I remember six or seven years ago looking at Europe at that time and thinking what responsibility might be mine in regard to taking one's country into war, but I felt at that time that we were facing not a conflict that would be local, but a conflict that would spread over the entire world and I used those words

when I first spoke about it in the House of Commons.

## After Nearly Six Years

"After nearly six years of terrible conflict we have subdued the enemy that we had to face, but we have still this enemy across the Pacific, but what is worse than all is the condition of hate and mistrust and misery that is the result of the war. I beg of you in choosing the government for the next five years to ask yourselves, of the men offering themselves who are the best qualified to serve us at the present time? We are still in the world war. We are at the moment witnessing nations meeting at San Francisco seeking out a plan which will help to maintain peace, once peace has been secured. The San Francisco meeting will not deal with the making of the peace terms or settle the boundaries of the countries of Europe. All that remains to be done. One of the duties of the new government will be to send to the peace table representatives who will help to make that peace.

"You have another great phase of national effort to consider. We have built up over the last five or six years out of a nation entirely at peace, a great war economy. We have organized this whole nation for war. It has been a great effort. When we started we were not doing anything fast enough; criticism was offered on every side in respect to this and that not being right. We held to a definite plan and took each step at a time, and tried to do the work as thoroughly as we could and we have organized Canada as a machine built for war.

"We have to change that back from a war economy to a peace economy. We have got to get the war industries changed into industries for peace. Hundreds of thousands of men are coming back from overseas. We have got these problems ahead of us.

## What Government?

"What government can we think of as best to undertake this work, a government who has had to do with it from the start or bring in a new group of men who have had nothing in the way of experience in regard to the great war effort of Canada? This is one thing you will have to consider very carefully.

"There is the further question—what about the next five years? The thing that I am most proud of in connection with the present administration has been the magnificence of the war effort. That I attribute to the people of Canada. And let me say in regard to the government's part, I leave it to you to judge whether we have been faithful to the trust which you imposed in us five years ago.

"Five years ago we were in the midst of war. We came before the people of Canada and asked for a mandate to carry on the war. We told the people if we were returned we would endeavor to make Canada's war effort worthy of Canada and in the years since our minds have been focussed on that end.

"There are two things that should be considered as to the government. How has the government discharged the trust given to them, and what do they intend to do in the years to come?

"Looking at the war effort as a whole that Canada has maintained up to this hour, may I ask you can you think of any other group of men in Canada who could have discharged their responsibility better than we have discharged ours? That, I say to you, is the first ground in which we appeal to you for a renewal of your confidence. The excellent war effort is the best evidence of what you may expect from now on.

## Manpower Question

"There are many men and women today who continue to consider the manpower question. They are not doing it because the war effort has not been a success. They admit it has been a tremendous success. But they want to obscure anything they have to offer and to obscure what the government has done and its program for the future. It is the second part that I wish to speak about tonight because that is what concerns the future.

"What I think lies more at the basis of success is that we should have full employment. During this period of the war there has been greater prosperity. Our effort has been directed to destruction but there

has been great prosperity in this war. If prosperity can come through employment at a time of war why cannot even greater prosperity come in times of peace when men's efforts and the efforts of the nation are directed not to the work of destruction but to the work of construction?

"I want to speak on construction tonight, what the government has

been planning so there will be plenty of employment during the years to come. If there is not full employment during that period, we believe the problems, some of these problems, will become incapable of solution. Our government has not just taken up in the last few months the question of looking to the future. We began to lay our plans for employment in the years to come.

"In the first place employment will come through the circulation of money plentifully throughout the country. The government has been spending vast sums of money for munitions and vast sums to maintain our armies at the front and vast sums for the payment of food. Vast sums of money have got into circulation. When the war stops in Japan is this employment going to cease? It will cease unless there is very careful planning.

## First Step

"Let me state the first step we have taken. You have all had to put aside a certain amount of savings. You have bought Victory bonds. The government already has large sums of money that you have paid over to it and which is there to your credit. As soon as the war is over these vast sums that have been put aside in savings will be released and that money will flow out through our country, not to purchase instruments of destruction, but to purchase things for our homes. There will come at once a great demand for furniture and clothing and utensils and construction of new homes and the money is there. You will have a great demand for these things and these things will give great employment.

"Some of you at first wondered why the government adopted its policy of a price ceiling. This price ceiling has prevented inflation and it permits the standard of living to be maintained on a certain level. In Vancouver I said that if I had not been in San Francisco at the government expense I would not like to have been there because the cost of living is so much greater than in Canada. There has been a policy to try to maintain purchasing power in