



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 52/13 CANADA'S POST-WAR RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

An address by the Minister of Resources and Development, Mr. Robert H. Winters, to a gathering of the Canadian Club of Shawinigan Falls and Grand Mere, made at Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, on March 19, 1952.

...The story of Canada's economic development in this post-war period is both engrossing and highly significant. In good part it is the story of the discovery and development of our natural resources. It is therefore about these resources that I should like to speak to you. Their richness and variety are at present being impressed upon Canadians with new force and vigour. Surely one of the most striking aspects of our recent economic history is found in the fact that major developments of our natural wealth are not confined to one or two provinces, but are taking place from coast to coast. Not only that, but some of the most important of these developments are centred on the fringe -- and beyond the fringe -- of present day settlement. They form a saga of an expanding frontier, of a continuing discovery of Canada. We may agree that those engaged in furthering these developments are in the true tradition of pioneers. The result of their efforts is to place new areas of Canada in the forefront of our national affairs.

Another feature of the resources development we are witnessing is, of course, the fact that some of the most spectacular projects are still in what may be described as the "tooling-up" stage. Both now and in the years immediately ahead, many men and much capital will be devoted to bringing these projects to full fruit. We are busy laying the solid foundations for future expansion.

If the quickening pace of our economic progress offers Canadians larger opportunities, it likewise lays new responsibilities upon us. In the world of today, much as we should like to enjoy our material wealth undisturbed, we freely acknowledge as our first duty the assumption of our full share of the free world's defence. At present we are appropriating about half of our national budget for this purpose. This country's preparedness programme is many-sided, and for some time to come it will absorb a substantial proportion of our energies. The particular point I wish to make now is that the accelerating development of our natural resources is an integral part of our defence preparations, and indeed, of those of the North Atlantic community of nations.