

two territories together make up almost forty percent of the land and fresh water area of Canada and that their economic potential, particularly as a source of mineral wealth, gives every promise of being commensurate with their size.

By its action in all the fields I have mentioned the Federal Government can and does have a profound effect upon the character and tempo of resource development in Canada. Nevertheless, this does not alter the fact with which I started. That fact is the direct and immediate control over the management of the resources themselves, within any province, reside with the Provincial Government.

There remains the further fact that in Canada, under our free economic system, a third agency is also involved in resource management and development. That is private enterprise. It can be said, indeed, that the main responsibility - and opportunity - for the development of any particular resource lies with private industry. For this reason industry has a major responsibility for the wise use of natural resources, always, of course, within the framework of provincial legislation and resources policy and within the general climate created by federal policies and federal assistance.

I believe it true to say that few people question that much has been done in Canada, especially in recent years, to encourage wise resource management. What they do ask is whether there is any co-ordination in our resource policy or whether it is done instead on a "hit or miss" basis. As they consider this question some honestly ask whether a conference of all interested parties would not be helpful in forming what might be termed a "master plan". I myself do not see that such a conference could accomplish anything very helpful. I say this because there is in fact no lack of unanimity or clarity as to what the objectives of a resource policy should be. Rather problems arise only when it comes to determining how to reach this objective in each specific case. Because each of these problems always includes elements peculiar to itself they cannot be settled by any "master plan". Instead, each case has to be considered on its own merits, that is, in relation to the particular resource in question, the locality, and the respective interests of each party. I should like, in this connection, to make the point that there is far more frequent discussion between industry, the Federal Government and the Provincial Governments on specific resource management problems than Canadians commonly realize. It just happens to be the case that these meetings are not considered to be newsworthy and are therefore given little publicity.

The central fact is this, that while consultations on co-operative federal-provincial measures usually are specific rather than general in character - usually relating to a particular resource and to particular action to develop or manage it, or relating even to specific problems of one resource in one area - this specific and limited approach does not mean that