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will unquestionably justify this expenditure. We have in the past constantly underrated our potential sources of power. We have failed to realize that we have resources for the creation of a great nation. We have failed to realize that we have the room and the soil to produce food for 100,000,000 people. We have not allowed ourselves to rise to the level of the destiny that awaits us and the possibilities within our grasp. Today our conceptions of the future cease to be a dream, hazy, indistinct and, perhaps, fantastic. Conditions confront us, the outcome of which we can measure and determine—conditions as to the extent of our arable land, and mineral resources, and the certain influx of population from abroad. All these conditions we can measure and understand. We know that a judicious expenditure will be cheerfully borne by future generations, and that should we fail to do the work we are called on to perform, the future will blame us for our neglect to grasp

the great possibilities of this immense country. Under all these circumstances, with a rosy future expanding before us—and we can look down the vista and see within a century fifty million or sixty million under our government—with this future expanding before us, are we not haggling in a penny-wise pound-foolish manner in standing here and criticising a policy which proposes to give this country a great national road from ocean to ocean—a road which will pass by a direct route from Quebec to the west, a road which will pass through 1,700 miles of rich and undeveloped territory, and from which branch lines will extend to the Yukon and in various directions for the development of this vast country. Shall we not be conscious of what is before us, shall we not realize our future and reach forth our hand to grasp our destiny by carrying out the sound policy now submitted to us?

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