

income. There has also been a very substantial increase in productivity. I am sure you were all impressed, as I was, by the way our farmers responded in wartime to the call for greater production, how year by year they surpassed their previous records, even though thousands of their sons and daughters joined the forces or entered war factories. In many respects that was a superhuman effort by men and women who put duty to their country before personal needs and desires. But it was also a demonstration of the advances that have been made in recent years in farming methods and practices. Our farmers have shown that they are capable of greater output than ever before.

I do not need to tell a Montreal audience about the remarkable strides that have been made in the industrial sectors of the economy during and since the war for the evidence of that growth is here about us everywhere we look. Into four or five years of war, we concentrated an expansion in industrial plant and equipment that would normally have required more than a decade to achieve. We enormously diversified our productive mechanism and, what is more important, we found that we could make the most complicated types of equipment efficiently and in most cases as economically as any other country. We became one of the chief arsenals of democracy and we feared that when the war was over, we might be left with a huge area of vacant factory space and a large amount of idle equipment. But that is not at all what happened. On the contrary, our business men found it possible quickly to convert the wartime industrial capacity to peacetime uses, and found it necessary to increase