



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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An address by Mr. Douglas Abbott,  
Minister of Finance, to The  
Governors' Session of the New England  
Council, at Boston, on November 18, 1948.

In the past year on several occasions I have had the pleasure of addressing audiences in the United States. In some cases I prefaced my remarks with a mild reproach to my American friends for not taking a greater interest in their Canadian neighbour. Such a reproach to New Englanders would be unwarranted. I was delighted to learn of the New England Council's resolution, directing the attention of your people to the importance of cultivating better acquaintance and understanding of Canada. To see New Englanders turning North is the surest evidence that developments in Canada are being recognized by those whose reputation for practical and effective leadership is well established.

The interest and participation of New England in the development of Canada is not, of course, a new experience. It has a rich and varied history. In the old colonial days New Englanders inspired by the pioneer spirit crossed into Acadia which is now the Maritime provinces. You may recall what Sam Slick said of the population of that area in 1835: "The old stock comes from New England and the breed is tolerable pure yet, near about one half applesauce and tother half molasses, all except to the easterd where there is a cross of the Scotch". The citizens of both countries were intermingled in the great movement westward to our prairies and British Columbia, where the influence of the descendants of New Englanders is apparent today in every phase of Canadian life. Nor was the movement of peoples a one-way flow. Thousands of Canadians emigrated to New England where they have made a noteworthy contribution.

The cultural ties between us are no less profound. In education, literature and the arts the marked similarity of ideals reveals a great kinship and common heritage. If one were to examine a list of Canadians who have made outstanding contributions to Canadian life, in business, government or education, one would find a significant number who have received some part of their training in your great New England Universities.

In the industrial development of Canada which came later than yours, we have drawn freely on New England skill and enterprise. Your engineering skill and technology produced much of the machinery and equipment for our factories and mills. Your capital and enterprise have played a large part in the financing of our economic expansion.

Today, I would like to talk to you about the future--about the current problems that affect our trade--and, if I may be permitted to do so, to make some suggestions as to how we can meet these problems. In particular, I want to speak about some of the recent economic developments in Canada which have a special significance for the New England region.

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