

purpose; in short, the time is favorable for a fruitful and durable action. Now, to obtain important results, a program and some organization are needed in order to meet the requirements of the war and to enable us, to-day as well as to-morrow, to make the best of the situation.

When one thinks of the tremendous destruction of lives, of various riches, of incomparable monuments erected in the course of many centuries, which will be the result of the present struggle, one is astounded and inclined to discouragement. However, as past experience has proved, we dispose of the great force which has enabled Adam and Eve to survive after their downfall; a creative force capable of reviving almost everything, the cultivation of the land. If the present war gives Canada the occasion of reestablishing the balance between production and consumption, it will not have been, for us, after all, so great a disaster.

You will not be surprised, Gentlemen, that if at such a critical time, I treat before you of the question of the increase of our agricultural output by intensive cultivation; and this with the object of strengthening in a general way the standing of Canadians by the conquest of the soil; of enabling us to help feeding the allied troops; and also of widening and making more generous the hospitality we are eager to give to the heroic victims of the war.

Were there need to further justify me treating, before this Chambre, of a problem of economics, I would add, Mr. Chairman, that not only did you invite me to do so, but that you have yourself put the question at the order of the day in January last, in your opening speech, when you gave a statement of the status of our country, of our province and of our city, and made an eloquent appeal for a strenuous agricultural development, as a mean of lowering the high cost of living.

On the other hand, I wish to state that it is as a member