

In the Maritime Provinces, construction is being started on the Canso Causeway and the steel capacity at Sydney is being increased. In the other provinces we have, to mention only the highest lights: the Quebec iron, titanium, zinc and copper; the nickel of Manitoba, and a 147-mile railway to develop it; the oil not only in Alberta but in the other three western provinces as well; the aluminium development in B.C. and Quebec; chemical in Ontario and Alberta. We have in immediate prospect the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway and the power development which will accompany it; and the most recent proposal is to build a gas pipe-line from Alberta to Ontario and Quebec.

Less spectacular, perhaps, but no less important are the things which have followed and will follow in the train of these gigantic developments - the new oil refineries, the new pipe-lines the smelters, processing mills, factories, new chemical industries and plants, the enlarged transportation facilities which are emerging all across the nation, and a large increase in our population. Hardly less important is the development of the new municipalities, the construction of new houses, (the largest number of new houses completed in the world in proportion to population).

The great development of new things has been matched by an increase in efficiency in the established industries. Today, although the number of people employed in agriculture is less than before the War, production is up by twenty-two per cent. Pulp and paper production is nearly doubled. Aluminium has increased five times, petroleum six times, iron ore thirty-eight times. We produce nearly three times as many automobiles as before the War, and six times as many refrigerators. This list could, of course, be indefinitely extended.

Canada's Present Development is Neither Haphazard nor Unplanned

This is not a haphazard or unplanned development. When, in the nineteenth century, our resources were locked up behind an inhospitable climate and formidable natural barriers, the delay which then held us back gave us time in which to learn and profit from the mistakes which other nations made in the exploitation and partial exhaustion of their resources. Because in the nineteenth century we were backward compared to, say, the United States, we are now able to go forward more intelligently in the twentieth century. As a result, our present development is being accompanied by important conservation measures which are being applied to all our great natural resources; to the forests, the fisheries, the oil wells, and perhaps most important of all, in the form of reclamation and irrigation and other projects, to the land itself.

Canada's Post-war Progress has been Sound

For those who fear the effect upon Canada of the disordered world about us, I think it should be pointed out that this present impetus, which is still strong and vital, began and has continued in the midst of a disordered world. We are not over sanguine, I submit, if we think we can continue to keep it going notwithstanding the continuing adverse world conditions; for in Canada itself our activity, notwithstanding its speed and its intensity, has nothing false or inflated about it. The industries which we have encouraged and fostered are low-cost, efficient, competitive industries which have come into existence during a period when we were lowering rather than raising our tariff. They are not the kind that will shrivel up under the first blasts of competition or adversity. The result is that Canada's present economic programme is a soundly-based effort to produce to meet a widespread and genuine need throughout a world which has an awakening and rapidly-growing population, and an overall inadequacy of developed resources. Whether the world can avoid war or not, there is a need for what we are producing and organizing