



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
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No. 53/14 CANADIAN RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

An address by the Minister of Resources and Development, Mr. R.H. Winters, at the Town Hall lectures, New York, March 17, 1953.

Great Moral and Economic Strength - The Requirements of the Twentieth Century

Two world wars and the Korean war have taught our generation an important lesson: the present stage that our civilization has reached requires great moral and economic strength - to defend the cause of freedom against aggression, to provide opportunities for better living. The success of defending the gates of Paris in 1918, the battle of the skies over Britain in 1940, and the heroic stand of American G.I.'s at Guadalcanal in 1942 are symbolic of the moral quality that enables democracies to withstand and, in the end, successfully defeat wanton aggression.

Economic strength has its roots in the natural resources a country possesses and the skill and imagination with which people make use of these resources. Now there are some exceptions to this. Our British friends do not possess the great variety and abundance of natural resources in their islands that some other countries do. But through their creative ingenuity as a major industrialized nation they have over the centuries been able to exchange manufactured goods and highly specialized services against foodstuffs and industrial raw materials from many nations. And then there are countries with vast natural resources but which have hitherto lacked the capital and managerial and technical knowledge to make effective use of the treasures they possess. By and large, countries that have been fortunate enough to have a multitude of diversified resources and which have made effective use of them have made great economic strides. The outstanding example, of course, is the United States, where industrial progress has been particularly rapid and standards of living of your people have risen to the highest in the world. Canada is now well embarked on the same course.

Here are a few highlights of the results we Canadians have been able to achieve through extensive use of our natural resources.

Canadian Resources Position in the World

Canada, a country of 14½ million people, comprises about 2/3 of one per cent of the world's population. This comparatively small country produces more newsprint, nickel, asbestos and platinum than any other nation. Canada is second