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research agency, which ranks with the most advanced of such establishments in the world, and by research councils organized by Canadian provincial governments and universities.

Over the period 1946 to 1972, *per capita* output of industrial employees advanced at an average annual rate of 2.6 per cent. The aim is to improve this rate through advanced automation, better education and more efficient management.

While Canada's rate of advance has not matched the soaring increases in industrial production achieved in the last decade, by Japan and Italy in particular, its growth roughly parallels that of some other major industrial countries. If the index of industrial production is used as a yard-stick (1963 = 100), Canada's index of 185 in 1973 compares with the figures of 164 for the United States, West Germany 174, Sweden 167 and France 187, and is well ahead of the figure for Britain 135.

The industrial countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) agreed on a target for economic growth in the 1960s -- that of increasing their combined real income by 50 per cent. In fact, this growth-target for the decade was exceeded by 1970. The vigorous further expansion that has taken place, combined with the enlargement of world trade, is of fundamental importance to Canada, because the nation has one of the world's most rapidly-growing populations (Canadians in 1961 numbered 18.2 million; by June 1973 there were 22.4 million).

Natural resources As already noted, much of Canada's export trade is based on an abundance of natural resources. These have had an all-pervading influence on the country's economic development.

Canada is an important source of supply to world markets for resource materials of all kinds (but, whereas these were once shipped almost entirely in raw form, they are increasingly being processed in varying degrees before export). The four principal resource sectors are:

Agriculture: With more than 160,000 square miles of highly-productive farmland, mostly in the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, Canada usually holds about one-third of the market shared by the world's four principal wheat-sellers, the other three being the United States, Australia, and Argentina. Livestock plays an important part in Canadian farm production, which also includes other grain crops, oilseeds and dairy products.