

Industrial help has greatly contributed to agricultural progress in the last decades. As a result of scientific research, it is now possible for our farmers to improve their lot through the use of practical methods the efficiency of which is more and more recognized. Machines are making up for the shortage of farm labour and are also increasing yields, while fertilizers are a valuable supplement to farm manure in providing the soil with regenerative elements formerly unknown and helping to maintain and increase its fertility. From this standpoint agriculture owes much to industry for its huge development and the many resources which can now be taken advantage of for the benefit of mankind.

There are at the present time many industrial ventures which, in most agricultural pursuits, help farmers to develop their lands.

The soil is still the greatest factor in our economic recovery.

Our first duty is to look after our fellow-citizens and to help them in finding the means of leading a normal life. Such matters as international security, controls of all kinds, immigration, national defence, elections, labour relations, agricultural problems, housing shortage, tax agreements with the provinces, offer ample material for animated discussions during the present session. There are also matters which the various parties may raise, as well as measures which the government may introduce, and of which they have not as yet breathed a word.

If parliament intends to wade through all the legislative measures forecast in the Speech from the Throne, it will have to discipline itself. The discussions should be conducted in an orderly and methodical manner. Otherwise, the members of the other place who are arriving in Ottawa must be prepared for a lengthy stay.

The sad words which Cardinal Villeneuve uttered two or three days before his death are familiar to everyone: "It seems that it is God's will that I should die all alone, far away from my country and from my friends." From the very day of his appointment as a cardinal, he frequently must have experienced a feeling of loneliness. But from the moment he felt certain of his impending death, in a foreign country, hundreds of miles from his episcopal see, this feeling became a real suffering, the reward and the crowning piece of a great life!

A man of untiring devotion, a methodical worker, Cardinal Villeneuve could be found wherever there was good work to do, a good cause to champion, a new venture to promote.

As the *Osservatore Romano* so ably expressed it, his death "is a source of great sorrow for the Church, the Holy See, the College of Cardinals, the archdiocese of Quebec, the Congregation of the Oblates, and the whole Canadian nation." It is with bowed head that every Canadian pays tribute to his memory.

When our forefathers settled here, they were determined to take possession of the land, to become its masters and to make use of it so that families could grow and prosper.

The northward trend of industrial development doomed this mode of life. At the beginning of the century no one wanted to settle on the land. Our rural families were migrating to the towns. Montreal saw its population increase fivefold in half a century. A complete upheaval was taking place. Seventy-five per cent of our population, which was predominantly rural in 1871, were living in cities.

In the meantime people from central Europe—Germans, Czechs, Ukrainians—took possession of our western plains, which now form the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. True, the valiant pioneers of Ontario strengthened their position. But in the minds of our people and of their leaders generally, industry and agriculture were our chief pursuits.

I do not suggest that a clean sweep should be made of long-established methods and that new systems be built on their ruins. We must keep those attainments which meet our social and economic needs.

It is essential for all those who are concerned with economic and social problems to combine their mental efforts in order to ascertain what possibilities of settlement the country may offer. Indeed, those who have at heart the well-being of the people are required, in normal times, to provide constantly for the creation of new employment in order to meet the needs of the population.

The clouds of uneasiness hovering over the United Nations at the end of the summer of 1942 have disappeared, if not completely, at least sufficiently to reveal the dawn of victory.

As a former physician from Bonaventure, may I bring to your attention the Co-operative Association Congresses held in Gaspé. The best people from the Gaspé district convened under the enlightened guidance of His Eminence Bishop F. X. Ross, of Gaspé. This untiring advocate of social work wished to assure the co-operative members from Gaspé of his support in their endeavours to promote the social, moral and material development of the Gaspé district.

The unity and development of Canada are linked to post-war problems of far-reaching consequence. Our country faces a brilliant