

the decisions made by those who direct its basic industries. We Canadians must place ourselves in this position if we wish to retain our national identity and a reasonable amount of national independence. In this, to a large extent, we should equate political independence with economic independence. I say this because no nation, including Canada, can pretend to be independent politically if it surrenders too much economic power to the residents of other countries.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the twentieth century belonged to Canada. That may have been a bit of an exaggeration. Perhaps Sir Wilfrid, if he had lived, would have avoided some of the mistakes that have been made by those who followed in his footsteps. Nevertheless, I believe it is not too late for Canadians to be the ones to benefit the most from the great things that can be achieved in our country in the decades ahead. To do so, we shall have to be prepared to insist upon our national independence and all that this entails. Let's not settle for an easy life and second place. Let's be willing to make some hard decisions. Let's take full advantage of the tremendous future that can be ours if we have the courage and the will to take advantage of it. Let's do whatever we must do to be proud to call ourselves Canadians.

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