

10 per cent over the previous year. Recently, your distinguished guest of last year, the Minister of Trade and Commerce was able to say - "all key indicators of economic activity point upwards and the underlying market forces continue strong."

Since the thirties the base of the Canadian economy has broadened and deepened. And the benefits of our increased production are being more widely and fairly distributed among our people. In these twenty-five years our population has increased by more than half and we are now some sixteen million in place of ten. Even our geographical boundaries have been thrust out and the grand design of the Fathers has been filled in by the addition of our tenth province. Great wealth and effort has been invested - by ourselves and by others - in exploring and developing large new areas of the inheritance with which we Canadians have been so richly blessed.

This remarkable national experience - in which we have all in some way shared - has touched the imagination of the world. It has also, I believe, induced a new sense of assurance and self confidence among Canadians.

But the pace of material development, these past twenty-five years, has been so rapid and the change in our fortunes so marked, that I sometimes wonder whether we ourselves are managing to keep up with it. Are we Canadians adjusting ourselves as we should to the quite new situation of our country? Does our attitude toward other nations and other peoples always display the maturity, the responsibility and sense of proportion befitting our increased wealth and stature? For whether we like it or not, we Canadians have reached man's estate and, in our international demeanour, can no longer permit ourselves the irresponsibilities of youth. We are no longer in the wings; we are on the stage, in the spotlight with the other players.

Nowhere is this change more remarkable, nor its consequences more significant, than in our relations with the United States.

Most Canadians have a fair idea of how important these relations are. They know that the United States is at once our best customer by far and our principal source of supply and that our trade with the United States is greater than with all other nations combined. They know from experience that what happens in the American economy is reflected, and reflected pretty soon, in their own. And every Canadian is quite certain that, for good or ill, the destinies of the two countries are mixed up together, inextricably and forever.

In the last twenty-five years the United States, too, has been going through a period of enormous change and development. While the Canadian population has increased from 10 to 16 million, that of the United States has risen from 123