

provide for their mounting requirements of industrial materials. However, further growth of production in industrial countries is likely to be accompanied by increasing reliance upon Canadian as well as other outside sources of supply. The level of Canadian exports is already rising and continuation of this trend would exert a dual stimulus within the economy. On the one hand, it would bring into use recently-created capacity in Canada's export industries. Secondly, it would generate new interest in industrial expansion and thereby reinforce the rising trend of capital investment now underway.

What is presently known of investment plans for 1960 suggests that capital outlays by the business community will increase considerably. A stepped-up rate of expansion is indicated in the commercial sector, in manufacturing and possibly in some utilities also. The level of outlays in other fields of investment will depend in large part upon the physical and financial resources which they are able to command. For example, the reduced availability of mortgage funds has already brought about a decline in the level of private house building, but the recently-announced increase in the maximum rate on loans insured under the National Housing Act will facilitate the flow of money to this area. There is now clear indication that total investment, both private and public, will be up in the coming year.

Prospective growth in both exports and investment will help to sustain the current upward trend of personal incomes and contribute to further strengthening in other market sectors. The consumer market in particular gives promise of continuing buoyancy in the period ahead.

These considerations suggest that total demands upon the economy are likely to continue to increase, resulting in a further expansion of output and employment. While productive resources have become more fully utilized over the past year, there is still a considerable amount of available capacity in most industries. In addition, manpower and plant capacity are growing steadily. In these circumstances, it would appear that a production increase of considerable dimensions could take place without giving rise to excessive pressure upon productive capacities. At the same time, it is important that demands be kept within the scope of available resources. If this objective is achieved, Canadians can look forward with confidence to the continuation of sound economic growth.