Why this recent progress in the application of the principles of conservation? The answer is obvious. As population grows and standards of living rise, it becomes ever more important to ensure continuous production, and population and standards of living have been rising more rapidly than ever before.

Conservation therefore has become not only a matter of protecting future generations but of ensuring continuing progress in our own time. The federal Government is fully aware of this fact and that is why it has stepped up its rate of activity in conservation matters.

In closing, may I express the hope that your gathering has been productive of plans and ideas that will stimulate efforts leading to the speeding up of conservation projects and more intensive efforts to bring about the results we all desire.