

The suggestion for increased saving on the part of individuals is based not only on the greater security which saving brings to the persons or families concerned, but on the contribution that saving makes to the growth of our country. As such, it will provide the capital that our industry needs and thus help to increase our productivity and our standards of living in the years ahead. As such, increased saving will lessen the need for foreign borrowing and enable Canadian industry to expand with capital funds contributed by Canadians themselves.

It should not be forgotten that an increase in savings is likely to lead to a greater flow of funds, in one way or another, into new capital investment in Canada. We have had a great improvement in the machinery for collecting and distributing loanable funds in this country over the last few decades and our capital markets are becoming more unified, more inter-related. As a result the temporary or more permanent savings of individuals, private businesses and corporations (not to speak of governments and other public bodies) are easily and quickly made available for capital investment and other similar purposes. The millions of Canadians who put aside their savings in the form of bank accounts, insurance policies, pension funds and the like are contributing in this way to the growth of Canada. The further encouragement of this practice should occupy a high position on our list of priorities.

This country owes much in its history and development to the virtues of thrift and hard work. It is the duty of the Government to assist in the cultivation of the habit of saving. Those who practise thrift are entitled to the reward of the protection of their savings against the ravages of inflation. I shall continue to do all that lies within my power as Minister of Finance to encourage and protect the savings of the people, however small.

People must have confidence in their currency. If they lose that confidence, they will in self-defence either consume their savings or turn to unreasoning speculation.

Conclusion

We stand at the threshold not only of a new year but of a new decade as well. In this decade Canada will attain her one hundredth birthday. Those of us who live to celebrate that historic event will, if the world is given peace, look with pride upon a greater Canada, more developed, more mature, more populous by far than the Canada of 1959. We are privileged to participate in the building of the greater Canada of that bright future. We may be thankful that the days of Canada's building are not only of the past.

1960 should be a year of new growth in almost all sectors of the Canadian economy. If Canadians can hold production costs in line and demonstrate renewed efficiency as producers and salesmen, and if they are prepared to take the self-denying measures needed to resist the lurking dangers of inflation, the present period of