



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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CANADIAN RESOURCES IN A CHANGING WORLD

An address by Mr. R.H. Winters,
Minister of Resources and
Development, delivered to the
Women's Canadian Club, in
New York, on October 14, 1950.

.... Canadian resources and their place in a changing world is a broad subject. Perhaps I might tell you a little about how Canadians are getting adjusted to changing world conditions. And as the Canadian Minister of Resources and Development I might say a few words about the part played by our bountiful resources in the struggle for survival and betterment.

By a changing world I mean that sequence of events which brings wars followed by more or less peaceful intervals; periods of prosperity interrupted by depressions; and efforts to safeguard freedom and strengthen democratic institutions undone by ruthlessly opposing forces. Our present generation has had a full measure of all this. Still, we have come out of these difficulties with our heads high and with a firm resolve to do better in the future. In this, democratic nations the world over have been greatly assisted by the moral strength of their people and the material wealth that comes from full and effective use of available resources.

When the second World War ended we were all hoping for "peace in our generation." But Canadians as well as the people of many other nations realized that words alone would not achieve this. We thought that we had learned the lesson of the inter-war period. Then we relied mainly on pious exhortations and polite smiles. This time we were determined to make things work through constructive economic measures and military preparedness. All this was to be achieved in an atmosphere of good will and orderly exchange of international opinions on a world forum: the United Nations.

When we learned on that fateful day, June 25, 1950, that aggression was on the march again, Americans and Canadians alike were asking themselves: Had all that effort over the last five years to build a peaceful world been in vain?

The answer was given quickly: Aggression was met head on, thanks to the splendid leadership given by the United States. The Korean incident became a rallying point of peace and freedom-loving nations both large and small. Would all this identity of interest have been so abundantly clear, and would action have been taken so promptly if it