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Address Shoal Lake
United Church

When we first received
invitation from your
Minister and Session
we were in Victoria BC.

My first reaction was
"We will not be home
in time."

Then on reflection

2. it seemed that to
address you today
on the occasion of
your Anniversary and
also our Centennial
year presented an
opportunity of sharing
with you ~~people~~ some
of the thoughts and
experiences that
entered and influenced

3.
my mind during
our month "out
west."

We have a great
country and a great
heritage.

To recall the tales of
the pioneers would be
just another repetition
of stories being told
around countless
thousands

^H thousands of firesides
dinner tables and
coffee 'clak's'.

Perhaps for a few
moments this morning
we can let the past
century take care of
itself and use its
accumulated history as
a guide to the next
one hundred years.

5.

If the preceding one hundred years speaks of great achievement it also speaks of great neglect.

In viewing for the third time those mighty mountains to the west I found myself thinking with the psalmist
"How mighty are thy works O Lord!"

6. And again, "Unto the
hills will I lift up
my longing eyes" from
whence doth come my aid.

From time to time
a sense of awe found
me marvelling at
the natural resources
God has given to the
people who are striving
to build a nation
called Canada.

17. An old friend in
Victoria remarked
several times "I only
hope Canadians realize
what they have got in
their country."

Everywhere one sees
great development taking
place. Forests being
harvested and replanted.
Huge dams being
built to contain and

8 harness the mightiest of
rivers.

Great steamers plying
in and out of our
harbours. Immense
airplanes landing
from and taking off
for every country and
capital in the world.
Whenever one looked it
seemed as if there was
nothing that man

9. Could not accomplish.
Noting he could not
command. All these
natural resources in
this land called Canada.
All this wealth being
developed and moving
out to the needs of a
hungry world. All
these great resources
formed by God and
given to man, man

10 Who after all is
and always will be God's
greatest resource. Man,
the human, physical &
spiritual. Man the
explorer, the hunter,
the farmer, the
manufacturer the missionary

What of the next
hundred years for this
greatest natural resource

11. Man has succeeded
in taming nature
and harnessing her
great powers but has
failed greatly in
governing himself.

We see him all too
often in the light of
our scripture text
For which of you intending
to build a tower, sitteth
not down first, and

12 Counted the cost, whether
he have sufficient to
finish it.

It would appear that
in this succeeding
Century Canadians have
a rare opportunity to
assess what they have
in human resources.

Jesus came to
show us the brotherhood

of man: His was
the ultimate example
of man's love for his
fellow man. He gave
his life for what he
believed and his is
the Greatest story ever
told. He had all of
God's resources at his
finger tips, healing the
sick restoring sight to
the blind, the lame

14
to walk, and the dead
raised to life. His
compassion and love
for man the sinner
was boundless. Not
man the provider but
man the sinner. He
had a way of communicat-
ing with his fellow
man that could only
mean that spirit talked

15/ to spirit.

Without vision a
people perish and it
would seem that in
the next century if
man is to survive it
will be through a
new release of the spirit
in man. Clearer
communication between
man and man. We

Can communicate with
the instruments man
has placed on the moon
but we are failing
disimally in communicating
with our own family.

It can be rightly asked
"well what can one do
as an individual?" We
can become informed
as to what is taking

17 place in our
communities, in our
municipalities in our
province, our nation
and the world. We
can make that a
duty if you like. An
individual effort for Expo
2067. Once we become
informed about what
our brother man is

186 really doing, what
he is attempting we
find that communication
between him and us
becomes easier. We find
we have much in common
that the brotherhood of
man is not wishful
thinking. That getting
to know our fellow
men open up spiritual

19 And mental challenges
we never dreamed of.

That our progress in
material achievement
will soar far beyond
our present vision.

But the start has
to be made by you
and ~~me~~ not "they". The
individual has to
assess the material

he has, himself, whether
he have sufficient to
finish the tower. By
man is an island.
What he does affects
someone somewhere.
Through the individual
to the family. From
the family, to society,
from society, to the
nation, from the nation

21

to the world an
ever widening circle
that could, as God
intends it will, engulf
the universe.

2^d Christianity during
the past century - and
I quote from a saying
of Rev. Robt James McCracken
retiring Pastor of Riverside
Church in New York - "has
not been tried and found
wanting. It has been found
difficult & left untied."

It has long been my
own belief that if any
one country in the world
had been sincerely Christian

Every other nation
would have beaten a
path to her doors to
see what made her
"tick".

We have the future in
our hands. As individuals,
each one contributing his
or her talents and striving
to communicate with
each other. We may
have the next century to

²⁴ build our tower. We
may not.

Luke 18th 1 - 10

10. For the Son of Man
came to seek & to save
the lost.

"The good shepherd
and the lost sheep etc."
— — — —

Mr. Barnett's¹ suggestion

28 For which if you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it.

29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundations, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him

30 saying This man began to build and was not able to finish.

Foundations
New Manse
Saskatchewan