THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
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A NOTE OF HOPE

In 1800 the population had increased over 1790 by 35%.
In 1850 it had increased over 1840 by 36%. Then something happened.
The percentage of increase from decade to decade started down and
has been declining ever since. In 1930 the increase was only 16%
over 1920. Students of national growth and of future trends
point to this fact and say we have grown up, have become mature
and that the days of expansion are over. Yet the period from 1900-30
when the population growth declined, we enjoyed our greatest in-
dustrial expansion. In 1900 farm income was greater than in-
dustrial income, there were but one-million telephones, only
four-thousand motor cars were produced that year, only three-
hundred thousand homes were wired for electricity, we produced only
forty-three million barrels of oil, twelve million tons of steel
and thirty-five million pounds of aluminum. As a comparative figure
in 1943, steel production reached ninety-million tons. War has
proved how a nation's industrial output can be doubled. Is there
any reason why the resourcefulness and genius of this country
cannot achieve in the next forty years what it achieved in the
last forty?