

The danger to mankind's survival was anticipated with prophetic accuracy by the Rt. Hon. Herbert Asquith, one of the First War Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom when, in 1920, he said:

"The experience of this war has made actual what was unimaginable before. But there are, or would be, if the old system were to continue, two new factors at work. The first and most obvious is the unexplored and still incalculable effect of the harnessing of science to the chariot of destruction. We have seen in these four years only the rudimentary application of methods and agencies unknown and undreamt of in the campaigns of the past. Science has in these matters not only said her last word; she is still lisping the alphabet of annihilation. If she is to be diverted for another 20 years into the further elaboration of the mechanism and chemistry of destruction, we may as well pray for the speediest possible return of the glacial epoch".

What would he have said today in this era of hydrogen bombs and atomic warheads and intercontinental missiles?

Scientific miracles have wrought fantastic changes in material well-being for mankind but science dare not be allowed to become the master of free men or freedom will perish...

Believing that the honour conferred on me is designed to be an honour to my country, I intend to speak to you on the importance of Canadian-American relations to the future of the free world, and the need of fostering and expanding the unity of our purpose in the cause of freedom.

Our two nations have a major mission for freedom; - the United States, with its vast industrial power and population and by the contribution that it has made in war for freedom and in peace so unselfishly given to the welfare of all nations, and Canada, with its vast mineral and other resources and by its equally proven devotion and sacrifice of 100,000 men in two world wars. We have much in common.

Our nations must stand together with other freedom-loving nations. Our two nations have an appointment with world destiny, for the shield of freedom requires not only the resolution of free men that springs from the sharing of common spiritual values which are the heritage of all free nations but as well the material strength of material resources with which our two countries have been singularly blessed. The unity of these two countries, therefore, a unity of purpose, is of importance not only to ourselves but to the nations of the free world.