

I will refer, again very briefly, to the character and magnitude of the effort put forth by Canada in World War I and again in World War II, noting some contrasts and changes in the nature of our undertakings which should be remembered by those whose business it is to plan our defence.

Canada and the United States have grown up together on the continent of North America but until comparatively recent years there was no mutual concern for one another's security; in fact, until well into the present century there were very few people in either country who would even assert a friendly interest in the other. The reason for this was, of course, historical, since we were engaged on opposite sides in the Revolutionary War. On the conclusion of that struggle, many of the inhabitants from the seceding territories, who held to a continuing connection with Britain, moved north, sacrificing their accumulated resources and preparing to commence life anew under the most primitive conditions. This background was not calculated to bespeak friendliness either in the displaced persons or in their descendants, to whom the tale of enforced hardship lost nothing in the telling and re-telling down the years.

Our ancestors again fought one another in the war of 1812-13-14. This war had its origin in causes with but the slightest relation to Canadian interests, but nevertheless we were engaged along the whole of our frontier. We suffered invasion and the burning of York, now Toronto. We suffered mighty blows in return on the St. Lawrence, on the Great Lakes, at Niagara, Detroit, etc. One good thing which came as a result of this episode was the Rush-Bagot Treaty which was signed in 1817 and which has remained ever since as a cardinal point in the policy of each country in reference to the other.

This Treaty limits naval armament on the Great Lakes to nominal amounts by calibre and by number of guns. It is much prized by both nations as probably the oldest disarmament treaty in the world which, while modified to meet the needs of changing times and altered circumstances, has nevertheless remained in full force and effect.

In the years which followed and despite this Treaty for the limitation of armament, conditions on the border were far from being marked by that quiet mutual confidence which one might have expected from the oft-repeated oratorical reference to the "3000 miles of undefended frontier". There was tension caused by the Fenian Movement which resulted in armed raids into Canada from the U.S.A. to force our annexation whether we liked the idea or not. There was the Maine boundary dispute, which in the result, rightly or wrongly, subjected a salient of United States territory into the hinterland of our Atlantic Province of New Brunswick and forced our rail communications to go either by a circuitous route far to the north (the Inter-colonial Railway) or to suffer the disadvantages and inconveniences of passing through this foreign territory to a foreign port (Portland, Maine).

These and other incidents through the middle of the last century, such as the Oregon Boundary dispute and the "54.40 or fight" had the effect of keeping feeling between Canada and the United States in a state of tension and in fact it was anxiety for the security of the British colonies in continental North America which was one of the