

immediately, as required, and with a high degree of speed. Also, we must foresee and prepare against the increased menace of the submarine so that we may not repeat our unfortunate experiences of the last war on the Atlantic seaboard.

The preparation for the early delivery of large blocks of electric power additional to the ordinary demands of industry is also an essential.

Equally essential is the advancement of preparations so that we can be certain of meeting our vast war requirements for iron ore. It seems to me that all these important categories of requirements show the best promise of timely satisfaction through the St. Lawrence Project for Power and for Navigation and through the new power developments envisaged at Niagara, which are embodied in Treaties which now await ratification.

Here again it would seem reasonable to expect that, when the vast portent of these Treaties in their relation to the immediate needs of Canada and the United States, particularly for power and vital defence requirements, is widely understood by the peoples of North America, we may expect that they will insist on completion and prompt implementation.

The factors which make for military strength have varied from country to country and from age to age. Sometimes it has been possession and skill in the use of a particular weapon, sometimes an advantage in movement or in communications; sometimes, though not often in history, it has been sheer numbers that have given advantage.

Today the military strength of North America rests on very special circumstances which exist on a scale presently unmatched elsewhere throughout the world.

Our young people, on whom the future depends, are most highly educated; they have been familiar since their earliest years with mechanism in all its forms and uses; they have shown inventive abilities of the highest order, and capabilities in research which are unexcelled; there is discipline when the occasion requires, and courage in action and capacity to endure adversity that have been proved beyond dispute.

Behind these priceless human and moral resources which are notable characteristics of the people of the Atlantic Region, the United States and Canada between them in North America possess the most comprehensive mass production industry in the world. We are particularly fortunate that, if we have to meet an emergency, we start from the satisfactory position that in the standards, in the methods and in the techniques of industry there is wide interchangeability between us. We have, or can have, ample supplies of most key materials required for peace, or for war; and, for any potential shortages, there is capacity to develop acceptable substitutes; capacity, too, for perfecting and rapidly producing the newer and better weapons of war as the occasion may require them for purposes of defence.

It is not on numbers in the armed forces that we in the North Atlantic community depend for defence against any possible aggression, though these must be sufficient. We depend in fact on the more highly-skilled and perfectly-equipped forces by sea and land and in the air which our special advantages make possible - hard-hitting forces which can be