

was concentrated upon that contribution, and the courageous achievements of our men filled Canada with pride, Britain and France with inspiration, and the enemy with confusion. But, military historians and present-day experts agree that there was, in the strategy of the last war, a woeful waste of treasure and of life.

In 1914, we had no Air Force of our own, although on the honour roll of the Royal Air Force are imperishably enshrined the names of thousands of young Canadians. Our naval service in 1914 was exceedingly small. It had, in fact, no separate existence in time of war. Such is not the case today. The Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force are today separate, distinct, and well organized services. They are vital elements in the defence of Canada. They are important links in the unbroken chain of allied strength.

**The Land—The Sea—The Air—
Industrial Activity.**

Already we have organized and despatched an expeditionary force. Three contingents have safely crossed the Atlantic. Our men have been subjected to the strictest standards of health and training. The First Division is now completing its training in England, the Second is well advanced in training in Canada. When the day comes for our soldiers to face the enemy, they will be found, in physique and morale, the equal of their fathers and predecessors who made Canada a nation on the fields of Flanders. They will be better equipped than their comrades were in the last war.

But, as you know, the main theatre of war thus far has not been on land; it has been on the sea, and in the air. In those elements, the strength, the skill, and I may say, the brutality of the enemy have combined in a vain effort to

strike terror into the hearts of the British and French peoples. The strategy of yesterday is not the strategy of today. It may be that the strategy of today will not be the strategy of tomorrow. Time will tell that story. Thus far, while we have been told that the presence of Canadian land forces will be no less heartily welcomed, we have been definitely asked to direct our effort especially towards the development of our naval and air services, and to industrial activity. I think you will agree that the course of the war, up to the present, has shown with what foresight the Allied plans have been laid.

Position Wholly Different from that of 1914.

I need hardly remind you how the conditions of the present war differ from those that prevailed in 1914. Methods of warfare are new, weapons are new, and, abroad, the strategic picture is now entirely different. Today Germany fights on only one front. This time Russia is not our ally, Italy is not our ally, Japan is not our ally. In the early years of the last war, we relied on British ships alone to protect our eastern shores and the waters of the Gulf. Diplomacy had made our western ocean, in very truth, Pacific.

Our own position, as a country, has also changed. Today Canada stands, before the world, as a nation. We have the privileges of nationhood. We have also its responsibilities. The first of these is responsibility for our own national security. The primary duty of each member of the British Commonwealth is to provide for its own defence. That is the basis of our free association, and of all Empire co-operation. It has been so recognized at every Imperial Conference since 1923.

The threats to Canadian security are far greater today than they were in 1914. To the East, on the Atlantic, we face warfare. To the West, on the Pacific, we face doubt and

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