

Canadian musicians, or players, to areas which otherwise could never hear or see them. It would serve to effect cultural exchanges with other countries which at present find no Canadian organization available to respond to their approaches. It would administer a limited number of scholarships in the non-scientific sphere with which hitherto the Federal Government has not been concerned. It would make grants to Canadian scholars and artists to enable them to do creative work, complementing American benevolence on which we have so far largely depended.

As our task reached its conclusion we found ourselves working against a darkening international horizon. Our recommendations have been shaped with a full realization of the difficulties and dangers of the time we live in. We have tried to keep what we propose within appropriate limits. But in the light of present day conditions, what is appropriate and essential?

The most striking items in governmental budgets today are related to defence. This is a matter rightly high in the thoughts and responsibilities of statesmen. That may suggest to the citizen that however important the subject of our inquiry may have been in normal times its consideration may well now be delayed until the sky is clearer. In other words, is the weather right for the launching of such a ship? This calls for another question. If we as a nation are concerned with defence what, we must ask ourselves, are we defending? It is obvious that we are defending civilization, particularly our share of it and our conception of it. The things with which our inquiry had to deal are those which give our civilization its meaning and character; and those, must surely be not only protected but strengthened.

We take for granted that the young men in our services understand the meaning of democracy. When we find that they haven't thought much about it we organize classes for a few weeks to tell them about the foundations of our civilization and such classes are doubtless useful and indeed necessary, but the articles of our faith cannot be learned in a hurry. Propaganda is no substitute for education. The spiritual weapons we need in times of stress and danger must be slowly forged and tempered in time of peace. For this reason as for no other we must protect and reinforce those permanent instruments which embody our traditions and keep them alive. Hence our conviction that the universities must be strengthened to preserve our heritage of freedom, truth and tolerance. The University is the power-house of the ideas which we cherish and which we shall defend. Thus, too, we must encourage the free ranging work of the scholar and of the artist, because what they are doing is also what we are protecting. Neglect all these things and we reduce the difference between us and the enemy. We shall be less able to fight materialism if we become materialistic ourselves.

Now gentlemen, I must not keep you longer. I have tried to suggest the meaning and purpose of our task and the impression it has made upon us. We have proposed that certain measures should be considered so that in Canada the things of the mind and of the heart may be nourished. We feel that these are even more important now than in those peaceful times which have gone and which perhaps we may never see again.