

the Conqueror in 1066 to Queen Elizabeth of the present. To you, George III is the evil genius who gives your historians a starting point for your school histories. Yet, prior to 1776 we were all members of one family. Now as a result of our close association in two world wars and in the present uneasy peace we are becoming linked very closely together again.

The links are strong and, as the years go by, will I hope, become even stronger; but not to the extent of domination by you over us. The history of Canada is the history of a long struggle against being overwhelmed economically by the United States. At one time in your history, in the revolutionary days and again in 1812, some of your people conceived the idea of freeing the Canadians from the yoke of Great Britain, and you took military action against our country. Later, in the years following the Civil War, certain armed bodies, whom we call Fenians, made hit-and-run raids into Canada. Our militia was called out and British regular forces were retained in our country to guard our borders.

These incidents over a period of two generations served to set Canadians in marked opposition to Americans. In addition, there are the basic facts of Canadian history, namely that the French in the Province of Quebec had no desire to become submerged by the United States and thus lose their identity, and that the English in Ontario and New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were largely displaced persons who had escaped from the States at the time of the Revolution. They and their descendants are known as United Empire Loyalists and the tradition is not yet forgotten.

During the period of the last ninety years, the struggle between Canada and the United States has been economic rather than political. Our forefathers, with great vision and determination and at great expense, constructed a trans-continental railways line to link our provinces together. Trade was encouraged in an east-west direction against all the forces of economics, for the north-south routes are obviously natural and cheaper. But because of our determination to remain politically a free and independent nation, we have persisted and have paid the economic price.

In the last forty years we have grown in strength, and our stature in the international field has steadily increased. We played our part from beginning to end in two great world wars. In the first, our casualty list was only slightly less than yours, although our population was only eight million. In the second, we bore a full share of the struggle, with a million men in uniform and in service on the battlefields, and with the whole capacity of our country devoted without reservation to the struggle for freedom.