

There can never be any question of Canada's having to impose a crushing military burden upon her people in order to preserve her national existence, as states like Prussia have been compelled to do in the past.

#### FRIENDSHIP BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT.

I saw in a paper the other day a criticism on a summary of General French's report, in which the writer takes General French to task for even considering the possibility of an American invasion, and says that the very idea is enough to make Canadians smile. I know Canadians have smiled in the past at the thought of an American invasion. But that was after the Battle of Queenston Heights! I don't think Canadians to-day can do otherwise than regard the problem gravely and seriously, with an earnest desire to maintain for 100 years more, as in the past 100 years, the friendship of the United States, but with the knowledge that such friendship can be maintained only by mutual respect and by our confidence in our own power to defend our rights.

#### THE BEST FORM OF HOME DEFENCE.

Personally, I have always felt that the most effective and by far the best form of home defence for a free community is that in which every citizen is trained to take part in that defence. Certainly my study of the South African war hammered home into my mind that conviction, and impressed me with the immense defensive strength possessed by a free people whose law is that every citizen should take part in the defence of his country and be trained with that object. As for Canada, it is for you and for the people of Canada as a whole to consider what is best for your particular conditions. But I do commend to your serious attention this particular form of defence, which is not only, from a military point of view, the most economical, but which can be made to do a great deal for the physical welfare of the citizens, and which can do even more in promoting a sense of discipline and patriotism. And let me remind you that discipline and patriotism are essential to every country, not for purposes of defence against external aggression only, but also for internal peace and for the growth of material prosperity. It is the absence of these qualities that sooner or later leads to internal trouble, to industrial crises and social conflict. Only a patriotic and disciplined nation can in the long run hope to be prosperous and contented.

#### THE PRESENT PRESSING NEED.

There is no Empire in the world which can so easily be