

*material* of war which cannot be procured on her own soil, in considerable excess of the strength of her active militia. Economy in uniforms, in transport, in engineering works, may be practised, but a sufficiency of arms and ammunition is requisite for the security of the country.

To sum up the military needs of the Dominion, many of which are doubtless met. First, a small force so organized as that it may serve as a nucleus for one much larger, to be raised in the event of war. This condition includes and pre-supposes instructed officers and non-commissioned officers for this small force.

Secondly, carefully prepared organization on paper of the reserves.

Thirdly, full information and accurate details on all points connected with the defence of the country, to be collected by the divisional staff, and systematized at head-quarters.

Fourthly, supplies of arms and ammunition for about 100,000 men.

Whilst last, but not least, a maritime organization for the inland waters. This last condition is of vital importance; the more the map of the country is studied, the more does its defence appear to depend on the superiority of her naval force acting on the St. Lawrence, and at all events on the most eastern of the great lakes.

In conclusion I would urge those to whom the people of this great country look for leadership, to whatever political party they may belong, to build up with the nation's growth a sound system of defensive organization. The system need not be expensive, the great point being that money should not be wasted, that time should be economized by careful previous organization, and that matters which might be foreseen and provided for in peace time, should not be left to be hurriedly, excitedly and extravagantly performed on a prospect of hostilities. The defence of Canada depends on the possibility of holding certain strategical positions, and on the maintenance of her means of communication with England. Her strength lies in her vigorous, manly, and orderly population, peculiarly fitted by character and habits of life for sustained and patriotic efforts.