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MR. ST. LAURENT ON SECURITY

"You can thank God that you were born and are living in a country which is free and prosperous and which has all the elements for a bright future. These advantages are of little value if your own generation does not learn to turn them to the best possible account, to make them bear fruit by intelligent and rational effort, and to be prepared to defend them should an enemy ever dare to resort to aggression.

"Your profession, though far from easy, is a most interesting one and carries with it heavy responsibilities. In fact, our efforts to prevent war, and in the last resort, the safety of our country and the survival of all the things we believe in, may depend on your ability and efficiency. . . .

"We are not responsible for the present situation. It has been forced upon us, but we do not react to the situation by doing nothing. We are ready to defend ourselves with the utmost energy. We are doing our best to live up to the old proverb: Si vis pacem para bellum.

"That is why we have concluded a treaty with the thirteen nations which have joined the North Atlantic Alliance, nations who want peace and security as much as we do and who, like us, are sparing no effort and are making heavy sacrifices to attain a common aim.

ACCEPT SACRIFICES

"It is unfortunate that we should have to live under such conditions, in a state of uncertainty and anxiety. It is unfortunate that we should have to expend so much energy and so much money in order to keep constant guard over our positions. However, everybody realizes that the defence of our country and of the other free nations is essential to our well-being and to our security and we therefore are willing to accept the sacrifices that a constant vigilance demands.

"The method we have adopted to prevent war is to align forces which no power will dare attack. If an aggressor dared to take the risk he would find himself subdued by those forces.

"We must not increase the present danger by creating fear, on the contrary, we must increase confidence, basing it on the effectiveness of our preparation and on the superiority of our way of life and of our democratic system.

"Together with those thirteen other nations we earnestly hope we will not have to use our armed might. But, without it we could not experience that feeling of security which comes from the influence which our combined strength exerts upon world affairs.

"It is for this reason that we appropriate, each year, over two billion dollars in the interests of preserving a civilization in which we believe and the freedom which we hold dear. . . ."

CHAIN STORE SALES UP: Average sales of Canadian chain stores climbed to a record \$251,926 last year, almost 11 per cent above the 1951 high of \$227,601 per store, according to the annual report on retail chain stores by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was 63 per cent more than the 1946 average of \$154,725 per store and more than four times the 1939 average of \$59,879.

Total retail chain store sales rose from the nineteenth consecutive year in 1952 to reach a new peak of \$1,929,750,000 that was 12 per cent above the 1951 record of \$1,726,354,400. The number of local, provincial, sectional and national retail chain companies fell by 21 to 458 during the year, but the maximum number of stores operated increased by 112 to 7,935 and the average number of stores operated throughout the year by 75 to 7,660.

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NICKEL CONTROL ENDED: The Minister of Defence Production, Mr. C.D. Howe, announced on October 8 that Primary Nickel Order NFM-10 issued April 16, 1951 and amended in 1953, to ensure that all defence needs were met and to regulate equitable distribution of remaining supplies for commercial purposes was revoked. This was made possible by the termination of the International Materials Conference allocations at the end of the Third Quarter and the fact that demands both for defence and commercial purposes can now be met.

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GRAIN CROPS HARVESTED: With the exception of flaxseed, an estimated 90 per cent or more of this year's grain crops in each of the Prairie Provinces had been cut by October 3, according to a survey conducted jointly by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and provincial Departments of Agriculture. Generally excellent harvesting conditions have prevailed over the Prairie Provinces since October 3.

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SMALLER APPLE CROP: This year's Canadian apple crop is now expected to amount to 11,600,000 bushels, four per cent below last year's crop of 12,000,000 bushels, according to the second estimate of fruit production. This is 500,000 bushels less than the first estimate, released a month ago, the decrease being due to crop losses in the Annapolis Valley caused by the hurricane which struck Nova Scotia in September.

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The average expenditure per car of Americans visiting Canada in 1952 was highest for automobiles from Nebraska at \$109.89, followed by Nevada cars at \$103.64, Mississippi cars at \$103.38, District of Columbia cars at \$102.67, and Ohio cars at \$100.34. The average was lowest for Vermont cars at \$14.14.