

525541

SPEECH BY SIR THOMAS INSKIP.

Recent events, I think, have forced us all to realise that if we are to safeguard world peace and be sure of our own security, our national defence forces must be put upon a safe footing, and that without delay.

With this object I have been appointed to co-ordinate - to put in order - the duties and activities of the three defence services.

On the industrial side it is my duty to see that the plans for new ships, additional aeroplanes, up-to-date equipment, and so on, are carried through with no waste of time or money, with no profiteering and with due regard to the existing standards of employment.

It is my earnest hope that the world may never be plunged into another war. Should that disaster ever come upon us, however, our defence forces must be prepared and fitted for their tremendous task.

We owe it to the men that they shall lack nothing in the way of material and equipment that modern science and invention can supply. That is our purpose and as a nation we are determined to achieve it.

-----