

In addition to hard training and ordinary duties of life in the field army, the army in Britain has done many other things. I should like to describe some of those activities in the words of General McNaughton. I intend to do so in a few moments because I wish also to have the challenge which my hon. friend has thrown out answered in the words of General McNaughton himself.

In connection with the army overseas, the Canadian active army of two army corps announced a year ago has completed its formations in all its major components. Ancillary units are month by month proceeding overseas. Thousands are in training as reinforcements wherever required. The programme of army expansion in Canada, announced on March 25 of last year, is being carried out. The 6th and 7th divisions and the brigade groups of the 8th division are mobilized. There are in addition troops on garrison duty on our coasts and in our vulnerable areas. In addition to the troops in Newfoundland, Labrador and the West Indies, the Canadian army is cooperating in the defence of Alaska. Behind the active army are the tens of thousands of citizens who are effectively devoting their time and energy to the important work of the reserve army. Then also there has been the important voluntary work carried on by many tens of thousands of our citizens in air raid precautions and civil defence.

The Royal Canadian Air Force continues to develop its threefold activities: air training, territorial and coastal defence, and active combat against the enemy in all parts of the world. During the year the agreement which set up the original British commonwealth air training plan was renewed and extended. Royal Air Force training in Canada has been coordinated with the commonwealth plan in a greatly enlarged combined training organization. The expansion of the home war establishment, forecast a year ago and set out in greater detail on March 25 last, is being actively advanced. The growing submarine menace along our eastern coast and in the St. Lawrence, and the combined operations with the United States forces in Alaska have increased the combat activities for the squadrons of the home war establishment. Canadian bombing squadrons of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Royal Air Force have been engaged in steadily mounting numbers in operations over Germany and German-occupied Europe, Italy, North Africa and the middle east, India, Ceylon and the southwest Pacific. A Canadian bomber group was formed in Great Britain in December last. During next year the number of Royal Canadian Air Force squadrons will be increased to thirty-eight. The Royal Canadian Air Force is

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

undertaking increasing responsibilities for the maintenance, equipment and welfare of Canadian airmen serving in combat areas overseas. Royal Canadian Air Force squadrons serving overseas will be fully equipped and maintained by Canada. In addition, Canada is undertaking to provide the pay and allowances of the Royal Canadian Air Force personnel serving in squadrons of the Royal Air Force.

I should like now to say a word with regard to war production. There is perhaps no more graphic way of indicating the progress of Canada's war production in the past year than to cite a few figures of production in 1942 as compared with 1941. First, as to shipbuilding: in 1941 Canadian shipyards built eighty-five corvettes and minesweepers, and in 1942 we built seventy-four, a decrease of eleven. But in 1942 many of the larger shipyards were devoted to the building of cargo ships. Over eighty cargo ships were built as compared with one in 1941. The output of military aircraft in 1941 was under 1,700. In 1942 it was almost 3,800. In 1941 Canada manufactured some 3,000 armoured fighting vehicles including tanks, universal carriers, scout cars and armoured cars; in 1942, well over 12,000. The output of mechanical transport numbered less than 120,000 vehicles in 1941 but over 200,000 in 1942. The increase in the output of field guns, naval guns, machine guns and small arms and ammunition of all kinds is even more spectacular. In money value Canada's war production in 1942 had increased some 159 per cent over 1941, from over \$800,000,000 to over \$2,100,000,000. The number of men and women employed in war industry at the close of 1941 was some 700,000. At the end of 1942 the number had risen to well over a million. These figures should be a source at once of pride and of encouragement to Canadian industry and to the working men and women whose labours made possible such production.

Canada's war production was not confined to ships and aircraft, machines, weapons and ammunition. Primary production was also greatly increased. Aluminum, nickel, copper and other base metals; steel, timber and other essential war materials were produced in greater quantities. Canadian agriculture responded splendidly to the increased need for foodstuffs. Shipments to Britain were greater in all lines. Cheese increased from 112,000,000 pounds in 1941 to 125,000,000 pounds in 1942. Bacon increased from about 425,000,000 pounds to over 600,000,000 pounds, in this case over a slightly longer period; dried eggs, from some 15 million dozen to 38 million dozen. The programme for 1943 calls for 675 million pounds of bacon, 63 million dozen eggs and at least as much cheese as last year.