

National Registration.

May I now say a word about national registration. This gigantic task was the first undertaking of the Department of National War Services after its creation on July 12th. I do not need to tell honourable members how promptly, how vigorously, and how efficiently the registration was organized, nor how smoothly and efficiently the machinery for registration worked on August 19-20-21. I do want, however, to express to honourable members of all parties and groups, the warm appreciation that the government feels for their effective co-operation in this great national task. The cost of the registration itself was kept at a minimum owing to the enthusiastic response of citizens in all walks of life to the call for voluntary unpaid assistance in carrying through this great survey of Canada's human resources. The response of our people to this first universal call to duty was magnificent.

Rapid progress is being made in the tabulation of the results of the national registration in order to provide a complete picture of Canada's resources of man power to meet the many and varying calls for war-time service. The government did not await completion of the laborious task of tabulation before getting underway the immediate purpose of the national registration.