

quarters and that it has been suggested that Canadians are going to be too busy producing munitions to do any of the fighting. It seems to me Canada's proud record of participation in two world wars is a simple and sufficient answer to any such suggestion. But at present there is no fighting going on in Europe, and what we are concerned about is trying to prevent another war starting over there, and that means putting up the best possible evidence of united ability and readiness to resist and overcome any possible aggression.

To help at once to meet the pressing need for armed forces on our side in Europe, the government recommended to Parliament earlier this month that \$300,000,000 be appropriated to provide munitions and supplies for our partners in the North Atlantic Treaty, and Parliament overwhelmingly approved that recommendation.

At the same time and in addition to producing and providing munitions and supplies, we are strengthening all our own forces as rapidly as possible. We are pressing on with recruitment for our own regular forces; we are raising their ceilings as we go along. We have in training here at R.M.C., in the Universities and elsewhere a large number of officers for the three services. We are speeding up planned rates of production in nearly every line of military equipment. We are proceeding with the putting into commission of ships in the navy just as fast as men can be trained and the ships can be successively modernized, and we are also procuring a number of new ships. Our training facilities as well are being enlarged.

As you know, we are producing the F86 fighters and the "Canuck", the only two seater jet propelled fighter of its kind in the world. To provide additional immediate combat strength we have bought a large number of fighter aircraft from the United States. In addition to our own men we are training here in Canada, in increasingly large numbers, aircrew and army officers from the United Kingdom and several countries in Western Europe.

This, of course, is just a brief indication of what has been done so far. One of the things which we would like to see is a larger number of men in our reserve forces. The Department of National Defence, as you know, has organized recruiting programmes, but we have to admit that in a time of full employment and while we are not at war it is difficult to get all the men in the reserve which we would like to see.

Now I know that many of you are closely connected with our reserve forces and you know of the difficulty in getting men just as well as I do. But I wonder if I might make a special appeal to you, since most of you occupy influential positions in your respective communities, to do everything you can to encourage young men to join the reserve forces. We hope to avoid a third world war, but if in spite of the efforts of our associates and ourselves it does come, we will have to rely on these units to the same extent as we have done before. And the better shape they are in now the more rapidly we would be able to play our part if a general outbreak of hostilities should occur. And in the meanwhile the better state they are in the more they contribute to our total deterrent strength.