

I might add that it is equally useless to utter alarming cries about any aspect of war production. Careful critical scrutiny is of great aid to the government, and is appreciated by the country. But general charges, doubts or suspicions serve only to belittle the country's effort and to discredit Canada in the eyes of the world.

Wartime Industrial Expansion

We have every right to take pride in our industrial expansion. Canadian labour and Canadian industry have responded splendidly. We have been building an aircraft industry from the ground up. We have already built over fifty small naval vessels and more are being built. We are turning out motor transport vehicles at the rate of hundreds a day. We are producing universal carriers, Bren and Colt-Browning machine guns, trench mortars, bombs for aircraft, great quantities of shells and ammunition, a wide range of chemicals, electrical apparatus and radio equipment, many other types of essential manufactured goods, large quantities of base metals and alloys, and an increased output of steel. We will shortly begin to produce field guns, and before the year ends, naval guns, anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns and Lee-Enfield rifles. The production of tanks and of cargo vessels is already under way. Plans are also being made to build destroyers in Canada. Such are the highlights of our programme of war production.

The expansion of production has already been reflected in the absorption of between 330,000 and 350,000 additional men in industrial employment since the outbreak of war. Nor must it be forgotten that the armed forces and industry will make additional demands estimated at over 300,000 men in the coming year. Skilled labour and specialized plant facilities will have to be increasingly diverted to the production of vital war supplies. All along the line, Canadian industry has been geared up to make a maximum contribution to the prosecution of the war.

Canada's Indirect Effort

Perhaps the best illustration I can give of the magnitude of the indirect contribution by Canada to the war is to say that, over and above what is being appropriated for our direct war effort, we expect, during the next twelve months, to send to Britain approximately \$1,500,000,000 worth of munitions of war, raw materials and agricultural products. This total is larger than was originally estimated, but it has been arrived at as the result of a careful re-examination of the figures relating to British orders already placed, or to be placed, in Canada, and the probable production of our war plants and other Canadian industries.