

calling for greater production, and without even making provision for the rebate of the duty on raw materials imported by the tractor manufacturers, was an unfair and unjust measure. We made such representations to the Government that they finally rebated the duty charges on raw materials, but the tractor industry, where hundreds of men were employed and others in anticipation, as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars already invested, has been paralyzed, at all events for the present.

### **Manufacturers' Contributions and Obligations**

Manufacturers are, however, quite tired of the abuse that is being heaped upon them from interested quarters, and while it is readily admitted that there may be many schools of economists of widely divergent views, yet it is high time that a policy of standing together in our national interests be adopted, and that we should emphasize the need of common honesty and sincerity being shown in the statements that are being circulated. The profits of manufacturers, generally speaking, have been grossly exaggerated, and while here and there abnormal figures are shown (which are subsequently largely extracted by the Business Profits Tax), yet the large profits feature also applies in the case of agriculturists. The great majority, however, of these two classes, as well as of all other classes in the country, are simply making reasonable and necessary headway. Let us look at what manufacturers have helped to accomplish in the last three and one-half years.

1. Manufacturers have contributed more largely than any other class to the furnishing of men for the colors.
2. Manufacturers in large numbers have entered into personal obligations with those of their men who may return as to giving them employment. As this matter of employment will be one of the most insistent questions after peace is declared, it might pertinently be asked how manufacturers can fulfil their part of the compact if the fiscal policy of the country is to be radically changed?
3. Manufacturers have been called upon to assume greater burdens of taxation than possibly any other class, and especially the farming community.
4. Manufacturers have, perhaps more largely than any other class, contributed to all patriotic funds which have been launched.
5. No class has subscribed more liberally to all Government war loans, and it must be remembered that in very many cases those so subscribing have undertaken large obligations at their bankers to enable them to do this. Manufacturers would greatly regret being placed in such a position, either by reason of removal of the tariff or taxation measures, causing strangulation of industry, that would not permit them to continue such relationship towards future Government undertakings.