

maintaining our military, naval and air forces at home and overseas, giving of life as well as of treasure, but we are also helping to supply to Britain equipment, munitions and the other essentials of war. The exception I have referred to is this: Canada is paying the entire cost of three air squadrons already in Britain. But as Canada is bearing the major portion of the cost of the British commonwealth air training plan, the United Kingdom, on its part, will maintain in the field Canadian pilots and airmen graduated from the plan. The number of Canadian pilots and airmen on active service overseas is steadily increasing month by month. The flow of trained aircrew from the plan will soon be measured by thousands.

What I have said up to the present relates to Canada's outright national contribution as a belligerent. It is being paid for in full by the Canadian people. It is not something that has been leased to Britain. It is not something that is being lent to Britain. It is a direct contribution by Canada to the cause of freedom. It represents the freewill offering which our country began to make over a year and a half ago, when this parliament decided that Canada should enter the war at the side of Britain. It is a contribution which we are making to-day, and which we will continue to make.

Canada: A Major Source of Supply

Canada, as I have indicated, is also a major source of supply for Britain. In common with the United States, Canada is an arsenal of democracy. Since the war began, the British and Canadian governments have undertaken capital advances of over \$380,000,000 for the expansion and equipment of Canadian industry. New plants have been built; old plants extended to make the complex instruments of war, many of which were never before made in this country. The creation of a vast new war industry has taken time. Occasionally impatience has been shown at delays. The same impatience has been evidenced elsewhere—even in Britain. I might say that none in Canada are more impatient of delays than members of the government itself.

I should like to remind hon. members of what Mr. Churchill said not long ago in the British house on this very subject. Here are his words:

It is not possible to make a warship go to sea, and fight against the enemy, until fires have been lighted, and the water in the boilers changed from cold to tepid, to warm to hot. The steam is generated and the vast power is given. While this is going on there is no use rushing about uttering alarming cries.