

Redistribution

published by the Department of Munitions and Supply, I quote the following statement appearing on page 24:

Before the war the Canadian aircraft industry employed less than 1,000 people and made only a few single-engined planes and flying boats each year. In the 1939-40 period, Canadian aircraft production was just beginning its war programme which reached a value of \$42 million. The following year it jumped to \$102 million. In 1942, despite a radical changeover to new types and a general expansion and stabilization of the programme, aircraft production jumped to \$235 million from a coast to coast chain of strategically located plants.

In the 1939-40 period the value of the dominion's mechanical transport production was \$119 million. In the following year it was \$206 million. Last year the output was almost doubled at \$404 million.

A vast small arms industry has been created. November production of these weapons was 90 per cent greater than the output for all of 1941.

The manufacture of filling for Canadian ammunition is another huge industry in itself part of a chemicals and explosives output on a colossal scale. In 1941 it climbed to \$50 million. That production was more than doubled in 1942 to a total of \$121 million.

Armoured fighting vehicles were produced to a value of \$160 million in 1942, an output eight times that of the previous year.

Which means, if I correctly read and understand the reports of the Department of Munitions and Supply, that industrial production, the war production of this country, was carried on in 1942 and, as I was saying a moment ago, the country was barely able, in 1941 to offset the effects of the unemployment which had prevailed for so many years. That is why, when the government claims, in the resolution, that there was a movement of population at the time of the last census or since the start of the war, I say it is not altogether true, because of the statistics I have just quoted. I say there has been no movement of population prior to 1941, before the census taken in June.

And now, Mr. Speaker, as a final point, I should like to submit to the house that if it is desired to amend the constitution in regard to the redistribution of constituencies, we should avail ourselves of this opportunity to restore, in a full spirit of justice and equity, the true representation of the provinces in this house. This is what I mean: In 1865, those who have been called the Fathers of Confederation started to hold meetings in various localities, first in Charlottetown and then at Quebec, to propound resolutions which

[Mr. Dorion.]

were to give birth to the British North America Act. Those resolutions were recorded in our archives. The same statesmen met in London in 1867 to propose new resolutions based on the resolutions formulated at Quebec in 1865. Now when the British North America Act was adopted by the Imperial government, one clause which has been included in the Quebec Resolutions and in the London Resolutions was overlooked and ignored; and it was then that subsection 4 of section 51 was enacted.

In 1865, the Quebec Resolutions established in the first place resolution 17, which reads as follows:

The basis of representation in the House of Commons shall be population, as determined by the official census every ten years; and the number of members at first shall be 194, distributed as follows:

Upper Canada	82
Lower Canada	65
Nova Scotia	19
New Brunswick	15
Newfoundland	8
Prince Edward Island.....	5

Resolution 18 reads as follows:

Until the official census of 1871 has been made up, there shall be no change in the number of representatives from the several sections.

Resolution 19 reads as follows:

Immediately after the completion of the census of 1871, and immediately after every decennial census thereafter, the representation from each section in the House of Commons shall be readjusted on the basis of population.

20. For the purpose of such readjustments, Lower Canada shall always be assigned sixty-five members, and each of the other sections shall at each readjustment receive, for the ten years then next succeeding, the number of members to which it will be entitled on the same ratio of representation to population as Lower Canada will enjoy according to the census last taken by having sixty-five members.

21. No reduction shall be made in the number of members returned by any section, unless its population shall have decreased, relatively to the population of the whole union, to the extent of five per centum.

Later, in 1867, there were the London Resolutions which correspond to sections 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 which I just read. These are sections 18, 19, 20 and 21 of the London Resolutions. And section 22 of the London Resolutions reads as follows:

No reduction shall be made in the number of members returned by any province unless its population shall have decreased, relatively to the population of the whole union, to the extent of 5 per centum.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I wonder how we happened to have subsection 4 of section 51 which was, as I just stated, contrary to that agreement. I am not for the moment interested