

Profit Control:

Another aspect of Defence expenditures, to which the Minister gave close attention from the outset of his administration, is that of profit control. It was recognized that public opinion is strongly opposed to anything that would savour of profiteering in connection with arms and munitions contracts.

One of the first instructions issued by Mr. Mackenzie as Minister was that all major contracts should be submitted to competitive bids by advertising in the public press.

This was a notable reform as compared with the record of the preceding administration which, in 5 years, had advertised for tenders with respect to only 12 contracts, aggregating \$736,000. In view of the fact that the Department was spending as high as \$30,000,000 a year on defence and relief camps, this fact is very revealing of the attitude of some of those who have undertaken to criticize the present administration.

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
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