

the wages paid, and the articles produced, the increase in Canada was from 62 per cent. to 89 per cent. greater than in the United States ; and you will understand the importance of the Manufacturing Industry in my Province when I tell you that Ontario's factories employ nearly one-half of the capital and labour engaged in the factories of the whole of Canada, and produce nearly one-half of all the goods manufactured in the Dominion.

I have tried to indicate to you in the fewest words possible something of Ontario's extent, resources and progress, and the possibilities the future holds in store for us, and I now want to say something of the attitude of my Province in the present titanic struggle in which the Empire is engaged. From the very outset, the people of Ontario made the conflict their own. Some of the good people of the Motherland speak their thanks to us for what we have done and the assistance that we have rendered, but that is not the rôle we seek to fill. True, if the Mother Country had become involved in war in a matter in which Canada was not immediately and directly concerned, we would nevertheless have gladly come to her aid, that the Union Jack might still continue to wave—the symbol of liberty and freedom throughout the world. As soon as your beacon fires had been lighted on your hilltops, your sons from overseas would have rallied to your aid, the first growl of the Old Lion would have been echoed by the Whelps from Vancouver to Halifax. We recognise that we are part and parcel of the British Empire, no matter what responsibilities that position may involve. But in this struggle something more than the British Empire is involved—the liberty of the world, civilisation itself is at stake. We boast of our progressiveness, our Christianity, our liberty in our new Western land : our very air breathes freedom, and our mountains towering to the sky, our mighty rivers, lakes and forests cry aloud for liberty. Then surely we in that thrice-blessed land of Canada are as vitally interested in the principles that are involved in this fight as the old land or any part of the world, and we recognise that it is as much our duty as yours to make whatever sacrifice may be necessary in order that freedom may not perish from the earth. And had we