M. E. Nichols, Esq.,

#2.

- (2) Nearly two years ago Great Britain offered to work out a comprehensive scheme for training of pilots and the production of aeroplanes in Canada. The Canadian Government adopted obstructionist tactics and nothing was done. Canada might today have been the center of the world's greatest aeroplane industry and in a position to train the Empire's airmen if a spirit of co-operation had existed. The Prime Minister's recent use of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's facilities at our expense to defend his miserable failure to play the game was (to borrow a phrase) "a piece of unmitigated audacity".
- (3) Over a period of three years the Department of Defence expended approximately \$133,000,000. Despite this there were no boots, uniforms, equipment, arms, munitions, commissariat, or place to sleep when war broke out and it has taken an unconscionable time to make any progress.
- (4) At the session of Parliament at which Canada declared war the Government permitted three of its members to declare that if conscription is introduced they will resign; in other words, if Canada mobilizes its resources and fights other than half-heartedly they will not continue to lead us. From the outset a resistance has been built up with the full approval of the Government against a united effort, equality of service and performance of duty.
- (5) This Government has encouraged the belief over a period of years that Canada would never again send an expeditionary force. Ever since war broke out Ottawa has deliberately encouraged the impression that England does not want men, yet England has called 1,500,000 and proposes to call another 2,000,000 before the end of the year. Why does she call her own men if she does not need them? Can it be that she wishes to make the sole sacrifice? Or does Great Britain anticipate the possibility of Germany attacking through Holland and an attempt to turn the French flank, or a combined effort on the part of Germany and Russia against Roumania? In either event it is obvious that every last man will be needed, and if Canada is to render "the

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 6 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 218)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES

ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES

CANADA