

sary size. The Board took over two existing yards and constructed four others on the Pacific coast, and in Eastern Canada arranged for the building or enlargement of eight yards.

AEROPLANES.—A National plant was established for the construction of aeroplanes for training purposes, of which more than 2,500 were produced. This plant, latterly, produced bombing planes for the United States Navy.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD.—The Board acted as general and exclusive purchasing agent on behalf of the War Office, the Admiralty, the British Timber Controller, the Department of Aeronautics and the Ministry of Munitions. It also acted as agent for the United States Ordnance Department in arranging contracts for munitions and supplies, placed by the United States Government in Canada.

In the report issued by the Imperial War Cabinet for the year 1917, Canada's services to the Empire in the production of munitions were referred to as follows:—

“Canada's contribution during the last year had been very striking. Fifteen per cent of the total expenditure of the Ministry of Munitions in the last six months of the year was incurred in that country. She has manufactured nearly every type of shell from the 18-pounder to the 9.2-inch. In the case of the 18-pounder no less than 55 per cent of the output of shrapnel shells in the last six months came from Canada, and most of these were complete rounds of ammunition which went direct to France. Canada also contributed 42 per cent of the total 4.5-inch shells, 27 per cent of the 6-inch shells, 20 per cent of the 60 pounder H.E. shells, 15 per cent of the 8-inch and 16 per cent of the 9.2-inch.”