

ing the streets. Before I left England last year I took occasion to visit Woolwich arsenal, and I saw the operations connected with the manufacture of guns and shells and fuses, and of all the articles that are needed in war. I spent some time there, and took complete notes of every operation in that connection. I have a knowledge of machine tools, and of automatic machinery, so that I apprehend everything that was done in that arsenal. And let me say that I saw nothing done there which the people of this country could not do just as well. We have workmen just as able, and engineers that will hold their own with the engineers at Woolwich.

We must endeavour before this war is over to put ourselves in a position to reap every advantage from our great natural conditions. What a great thing it would be if this country were to become the greatest munition and arm producing country in the world. We have a monopoly of the raw materials that make cannon. To make cannon requires a certain amount of nickel, and also a certain amount of chrome, otherwise the temper of the metal will not last when the gun is fired quickly. We are spending enough money on this war to build these great plants for us and operate them. Now is our opportunity. If we let it pass it may never come again. If we deprive the Germans of our nickel, their predominance as an arm producing country will cease for ever. We will not be troubled with so many wars. That is the whole secret of it. In all these localities we should be doing everything we can to bring about the establishment of works of this kind. I know that the Government have had a great many things to contend with and that they cannot do everything. I am speaking freely because, as a result of this great war, we have thrown our text books on economy into the fire and we have also thrown away a great deal of our politics.

I think that some steps should be taken to inaugurate a policy similar to that carried out by Mr. Lloyd George in the old country. When he found that there were only three or four industries in Great Britain making shells and guns, and that they were trying to "hog" it all, he realized that it was necessary for him to get busy and increase the output of munitions. He called on the shoemakers, the cloth manufacturers and the steel makers and he said to these people: "We want you to make

material for the army." They said: "We have not any money to go into the manufacture of these articles." "Why?" he asked. They said: "We must have money with which to get machinery; the machinery that we require to make that stuff will be of no value after the war. Times are hard, we have no money, we have been fighting the Germans in the matter of commerce for years and we are without funds for the purchase of new machinery." That was true. He said: "You name what you want and the Government will provide you with it; if you want machinery for making munitions the Government will give you the capital that you require." He went to the manufacturers of clothing, of rifles, of shells, and made the same proposition to them. Hundreds of factories were established in that way and to-day they are all going and prosperous. They are making large returns on their capital. Now, Mr. Lloyd George goes back to these manufacturers and says: "Well, gentlemen, you have made enough money to pay for these machines, for which the Government advanced you capital, you have got everything in first-class shape, you are making big profits and now I think the time has come when the Government should go into partnership with you and take 25 per cent of your earnings." He is therefore quite justified in doing that. Something of that kind ought to be done in this country.

The day has gone by when we can stick fast to the old policy of letting everybody look after himself. England has advanced one hundred years in that respect during the last two years. Take it from me, if you had mentioned in England three years ago that there was a possibility of the Government taking over the railways of that country you would have been laughed at. You would have been told that there were so many interests at stake that nobody could get legislation of that kind through the British House of Commons. Yet, in one night the Government took over the railways of Great Britain and, with the exception of one or two small branches, they are now all under Government operation and control. The Government have gone behind the munition manufacturers and they are going to go behind other kinds of manufacturers. Read the debates that are taking place in the English House of Commons almost every day and see what members of Parliament are saying about what they are going to do after the