

tary enlistment. There are thousands of them in these Islands at present—I have not yet had the opportunity of seeing them—and I hope to see them in the early future—but my colleagues who have seen them speak in the highest terms of their admirable spirit and of their fine physique.

What have we done besides? I only desire to dwell upon this for a moment. Besides men you require food; the Empire requires food, the Allies require food. You require ships, you require munitions. We have tried to do our part in all these matters. There has been an active campaign for increased food production in Canada during the past year, and I make my grateful acknowledgment to those Premiers of the Canadian Provinces who are here tonight for their splendid co-operation in the attempt to increase food supplies. A recent report from Canada informs us that the acreage under cultivation for food purposes during this season will be at least 10 per cent greater than it was last year, and including wheat, oats, rye, and barley we expect in Canada, unless weather conditions prove unfavourable, a crop of about 900,000,000 bushels.

But we have tried to help you also with ships, and I am very glad to assure the Prime Minister that we have now some 14 shipyards at work in Canada. About 45,000 tons of shipping have recently been laid down, and we expect to lay down about 175,000 tons this year. We expect to turn out 84,000 tons dead weight during the present year, and 250,000 tons next year; and although the need may not be so great now as it was a year ago, we are endeavouring to do our part in aiding you in that way.

As to munitions you know, I think, that the industries of Canada have proved more extensive and more highly organized than you were inclined to believe possible at the commencement of the war. We have produced nearly one thousand million dollars worth of munitions, and of some particular varieties of shells Canada has turned out for the past eighteen months 40 per cent of the entire needs of the British Armies. We have done something more than that. These munitions not only had to be provided but had to be paid for, and the Canadian Exchequer has advanced four hundred and sixty million dollars and the Canadian banks one hundred million dollars as a loan to assist in paying for them.

As I am speaking to so many Members of Parliament, they may perhaps be interested to hear something of what we have done in the way of legislation. I did not lose a great deal of time when I reached Canada last year. I arrived there on the 15th May, and my first act, on the 16th May,