

in British waters. Unfortunately, we have been and still are often precluded from saying a word of what we had been asked to do, and of what, in fact, we had done and are doing.

It may help to bring home to you all a fuller appreciation of what has actually been accomplished if I summarize some of the results in terms of men, equipment and supply.

I should like, however, first to give you this solemn assurance. We offered to the allies, in the name of the people of Canada, all the additional assistance in our power to help them to deal with the recent emergency. We have made no restrictions. What we could do and have done, what we can produce, what we can manufacture, has been placed at their disposal to the utmost limit of our capacity and strength. They have asked us to do a number of things. We have sought to do each one of them promptly, completely, and without qualification. We have, on our own account, made additional offers and suggestions. Many of them have been accepted.

The Army

In the Army, when Belgium and Holland were invaded, we had 81,519 men of all ranks. We had one Division, with its ancillary troops, trained and equipped with motorized units on active service in England. Twenty-three thousand young Canadians were ready for embarkation to Norway or to Flanders whenever the word came from the Allied High Command.

A second Division of men, with necessary auxiliaries, amounting in all to 24,000, were completing their Canadian training.

Strategic areas in Newfoundland were defended by this country's soldiers.

When Hitler's lightning war, the "blitzkrieg", began we advanced the date of the despatch of our second Division. We did likewise with all reinforcements for the first Division, who had not proceeded to England. We speeded the recruiting of reinforcements for the second Division. We undertook the formation of a Canadian corps in the field and provided the necessary corps troops. We decided to raise a third Division. The units have been announced, and recruiting has begun.

We formed a Veterans' Home Guard for the defence of our internal security, and have authorized the establishment of additional veterans' reserves. We undertook to raise rifle battalions for a fourth Division. We have established a special training course for officers, and veteran officers.

Canadian soldiers are to-day also on active duty in the West Indies and the North Atlantic.