

## I N T R O D U C T I O N

The purpose of this REFERENCE PAPER is to present a statistical summary of Canada's contribution in manpower and resources in World War II.

Canada entered the war on September 10, 1939, and the conflict did not end until the surrender of Japan on August 14, 1945, almost six years later.

Because the demarcation between war and peace was not clear cut in all areas of the Canadian war effort, December 31, 1945, was chosen as the most suitable date in many of the following tables for which to quote final figures. By that time, in most cases, activities pertaining to the war had been completed, although in some fields such as price control and rationing, war measures continue to affect national life.

The withdrawal of direct government participation in war industry is well on the way to completion. Crown companies numbered 31 in all. Of these, 17 have ceased operation and nine are in the process of liquidation. Five will continue as part of the peacetime program: Wartime Housing Limited, Polymer Corporation, Parks Steamships Limited, Eldorado Mining and Refining (1944) Limited and Canadian Arsenals Limited.

Measures regulating the selection and placement of labour have all been withdrawn with the coming of peace. On the other hand, some important developments in the field of labour administration which have occurred during the war years are likely to have a continuing significance for considerable time. They include the following:

1. The huge war emergency training program, carried on co-operatively between the federal Department of Labour and the provincial governments for the training of personnel for the armed services and war industry, has been converted into a federal-provincial post-war training scheme called Canadian Vocational Training to provide rehabilitation training for veterans, to give post-war training to civilian war workers and to assist the provinces with their vocational training programs for young persons of high school age.

2. Wage control, first introduced in 1941, still continues as a phase of the general economic stabilization policy. The National War Labour Board and the nine regional war labour boards which administer this policy are still in operation.

3. The conciliation services of the Department of Labour have been expanded considerably during the war. They carry over into peace regulations establishing the right of employees to organize, the right of workers' organizations to name bargaining agents and the right of collective bargaining.