

productive facilities, which have been set up to fill defence orders, have a part to play in civilian production as well. Where new facilities have been set up we have tried to fit defence work in with the type of production that a firm is currently undertaking so that wherever possible it will fit in with civilian production either now or at some future date. Naturally, this cannot be done in every case, witness the rehabilitation of the Canadian Arsenal's explosive plant at Valleyfield, Quebec, which is strictly a military operation.

On the other hand, many of the components that will go into aircraft and aircraft instruments can be used by industry for other than defence work. In electronics as in aircraft, the general trend is toward a self-supporting industry with a corresponding reduction in the number of imported items. As part of our defence production, we are entering the sub-miniature field for the first time. We will be producing such components as tubes, condensers, resistors, etc., and learning new techniques in the wire assembly of electronic equipment that will be useful in the television and telecommunications field. The experience our shipyards are getting in handling aluminum will stand them in good stead. As you know, aluminum is being used more and more in the superstructure of ships, as it decreases the weight above the water and increases stability as well as payload. In the past couple of decades, corrosion-resistant alloys have been developed and a wider variety of plates and structural shapes are now available. There is no doubt that more aluminum will be used in commercial vessels in this country as more of this strategic material becomes available for civilian use.

The Canadian defence production effort is one measure of the responsibility which this country is taking in international affairs. I could speak also of the participation of Canadian forces in Korea and in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, but these are matters which lie outside the scope of my present remarks. If you will permit me, however, I should like to acknowledge the indebtedness of the Canadian Government in your own H.R. MacMillan who, despite having personal responsibilities, agreed to act as Canadian representative on the Defence Production Board of NATO and who, in this capacity, has made a very real contribution to the North Atlantic community.

As another example of Canada's participation in the strengthening of the free world, we are taking part in the Colombo Plan to promote the economic development of our Commonwealth partners in South-East Asia. The Plan, as now envisaged, calls for a capital expenditure of five billion dollars over a six-year period. Canada is contributing 25 million dollars during the present fiscal year. The technical assistance side of the picture is important at this stage and we have been fortunate in obtaining both a fisheries and a refrigeration expert from the City of Vancouver to assist Ceylon in some of its more pressing food problems. To help relieve the immediate famine problem in India, we are sending ten million dollars worth of wheat to India. One shipload has already left from this port. We are also arranging a contract for the shipment of 2 million dollars worth of ties from British Columbia to be sent to Pakistan as part of the Colombo Plan.

Still another field of co-operation is through the Commodity Committees of I.M.C. The chronic shortage of strategic raw materials, particularly metals, led to the creation of the International Materials Conference, with