

After making this statement Mr. Hesler goes on to refer to the large number of facilities which we have in the Maritimes, the way in which our coal and other resources could be used in the present emergency. He concludes this phase of his brief with the following paragraph:

When it comes to raw materials, we can boast of the iron ore deposits of our new province, Newfoundland, leading to the production of steel for various requirements, and large resources of timber to take care of any type of requirements of wooden construction, and coal.

Honourable senators, I wish to close by presenting a table, and in doing so I shall place definite facts before the house. I was pleased to note that the honourable senator from New Westminster (Hon. Mr. Reid) placed a question on the Order Paper today concerning contracts awarded since December by the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

Hon. Mr. Reid: For the very reason that you are now elaborating.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: Yes, for the very reason I am using today. My purpose is to give a fair picture of what is taking place in our defence program. I am not being critical at all; I am simply trying to present facts before those who are responsible for the placing of orders.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: Why not be critical?

Hon. Mr. Isnor: Well, it is not my nature to be critical. I desire to draw some facts to the attention of those who are responsible for the placing of orders, in the hope of bringing about results which the honourable member from Bedford-Halifax (Hon. Mr. Quinn) and I and others wish for.

This table or report is from the Canadian Commercial Corporation and is headed "Contracts awarded in excess of \$5,000." It gives detailed information as to the number and value of contracts awarded in each of the provinces, beginning with Newfoundland and going through to British Columbia; it also sets out the totals. The report covers four periods, but I do not intend to refer to them all in detail.

The first period is from December 1 to December 9, 1950, during which the total number of orders or contracts placed in the whole of Canada was 101, and the total amount of these was \$8,105,827. I know that figures are dry and difficult to follow, but perhaps comparisons of the amounts expended in certain provinces will be interesting. What do we find in this first period? The orders placed in Quebec amounted to \$4,418,192, and in Ontario to \$3,178,841, or for these two central provinces a combined total of \$7,597,033. The total spent during that period in all the other provinces was only \$508,794.

For the first period that is the picture and I want you to think it over.

Hon. Mr. Reid: I wonder if the honourable member could state what amounts were expended in Nova Scotia and British Columbia?

Hon. Mr. Isnor: I did not want to go into that at this stage, but I can give my honourable friend the information later. My time is passing; but if it permits, I shall come back to this point.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: There is no time limit here.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: Oh, thank you. Well, in that event I can give the information now. In that period Nova Scotia received five orders, amounting to \$208,243. British Columbia received four orders, to a total of \$44,477.

Hon. Mr. Reid: The same thing happened in the last war.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: Then you are with me 100 per cent in my argument?

Hon. Mr. Reid: Absolutely.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: I pass on to the third period.

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: What period is that?

Hon. Mr. Isnor: The period from December 18 to December 30, 1950. During that period 194 contracts in excess of \$5,000 were placed throughout the country. Of these, 64 went to Quebec and 86 to Ontario, or a total of 150 to the two central provinces, leaving 44 for all the other provinces. The total amount represented by the 194 orders was \$14,916,198. Of this there was expended in Ontario \$7,606,589, and in Quebec \$5,588,823. So the total value of the 150 orders placed in the two central provinces was \$13,195,612, which left only \$1,720,586 to be divided among the other eight provinces.

Now I come to the the third part of this statement which I wish to use, namely, the totals for the whole four periods. These present a very interesting study. Figures always fascinate me, and I like to use them, even though I know that to some people they are very dry. In his speech this afternoon my honourable friend from Montague (Hon. Mr. Grant) mentioned certain things that he did in one of his election campaigns, so perhaps I will be allowed to refer to an incident in one of my early campaigns. Back in 1928, when the American exchange rate was strongly against us, I think something like 17 or 18 per cent, the Rhodes government was in power in Nova Scotia—my friend the honourable senator from Bedford-Halifax (Hon. Mr. Quinn) will remember conditions of 1928 and 1933—and I took advantage of my habit of using figures. I said, "It is