

What has been the course taken by the Mother Country under similar conditions? In respect of such matters and in respect of other matters the course taken by the Government of the Mother Country has been to call to the aid of the Government the best business ability of the country. The business men of that country have responded and splendid results have been thus obtained. The Minister of Militia himself, it is only just to say, at least two or three months ago brought this question before Council and urged upon Council the advisability of having his department assisted in this regard by a committee of three business men. In respect of some other matters, the Minister of Militia has taken a course along that line which has brought about most excellent results. If the House will pardon me—my remarks have been extended beyond what I had at first contemplated—I wish to place before Parliament the record of what has been accomplished by the committee appointed in this country to fill orders which the British Government desired to place here, if they could be placed in Canada, for munitions of war. A committee was formed by the Minister of Militia in the early stages of the war, consisting at that time of Col. A. Bertram, Chairman; Thos. Cantley, Esq.; Geo. W. Watts, Esq.; E. Carnegie, Esq., representing the manufacturers; Col. T. Benson, Master General of Ordnance; Col. Greville Harston, Chief Inspector of Arms and Ammunition; and Lt.-Col. F. D. Lafferty, R.C.A., Superintendent of the Dominion Arsenal, representing the Department of Militia and Defence.

Report of the shell committee.

I have asked the chairman of that committee to prepare a report of their work for the purpose of showing what can be done by a business organization of this character through the co-operation of business men in this country. A report has been prepared by Mr. E. Carnegie, who has had experience in work of this kind in the Mother Country. He was appointed Ordnance Adviser of this committee. Having met him, I desire to bear my testimony to his ability and efficiency, which I think are very great. Col. Bertram and indeed all the members of the committee have brought great industry and zeal to the discharge of their duties. I would not care to read this memorandum, but if my right hon. friend would permit, I would like to