

of these guns is being shipped overseas. This month has also witnessed the initial production of depth charges and mines.

A week or two ago Canada produced her first infantry tank, and this production is rapidly stepping up to considerable volume. Before the month is over, we shall have produced our first Canadian-made cruiser tank. It may be of interest to mention here that whereas the United States, Great Britain and Canada united to produce each its own version of a common type cruiser tank, Great Britain has already adopted the Canadian version, and the United States has asked for a sample Canadian tank for test purposes, with the likelihood that United States will also adopt the Canadian design.

Canada is now producing small arms ammunition at the rate of many hundreds of million rounds annually. We are also producing ten different calibres of shell, at the rate of millions of rounds a year. We are also producing the explosives required to fill these shells, together with cartridge cases, primers, fuses and all the shell components. Hon. members will appreciate the magnitude of the job when I state that each month we produce about 25,000,000 individual parts of shells. These shells are being produced in Canadian plants.

A new government plant has recently poured the first optical glass ever produced in Canada, and is in substantial production on optical and other instruments, and on secret radio devices. We are also manufacturing anti-submarine nets and equipment and mine-sweeping gear. By September we shall be in substantial production in practically every type of gun used in this war, from rifles to the largest type of anti-aircraft guns.

A year ago Canadian orders had been placed for some 9,000 automotive war vehicles, of which less than one-third had been delivered. To-day we have already delivered over 120,000 vehicles, and still have on order another 80,000 vehicles. The automotive industry is also delivering universal carriers in substantial quantity.

A year ago Canada had a small production of explosives from existing plants, and one major explosives plant was under construction. To-day nineteen plants are either in operation or nearing completion, involving a programme of \$110,000,000. Ten of the nineteen plants are already in operation, and in another month the entire programme will have been practically completed. To give hon. members an idea of the physical size of this programme, I may say that several of our major plants each occupy an area of from one to two square miles. Our output of military explosives for this year will exceed the entire output of Canada during the period of the last great war.