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Dependable Facts regarding Col. Ralston's
speech of Wednesday, Sept. 4, 1940.

Furthermore, the recent speech of Ralston at the Canadian Club in Montreal on Wednesday last, launching the new War Loan, was of a very extravagant character. You may have read it. I saw an advance copy of it, but have not had any opportunity to refer to it. There is one particular passage, however, to which I desire to call your attention.

In referring to the Canadian Air Force Overseas, he indicated that these young men, who have done very good work indeed during the past week or two, especially under Squadron Leader McNabb, operated in Canadian made planes built in Canadian factories. Now, of course, this is false as hell. The only planes that are being operated over there by the R. C. A. F. are some forty Hurricanes shipped by Canada Car to England. The Hurricane contract was given to Canada Car by the British Air Ministry in November, 1938, and neither the Canadian Government nor the War Purchasing Board had anything to do with the giving of this contract or the carrying out of the same. The most substantial part of these Hurricane planes, of course, is the engines, and none of these were made in Canada. I think in the first instance they were supplied by Great Britain to Canada Car. Neither were the propellers made in Canada, and a large number of other component parts, and it is false to say that these planes were made in Canadian factories by Canadian workmen. It leaves the impression that they were complete planes built by the Canadian Government and sent over. As a matter of fact they were assembled in Canada for the British Government without the intervention of the Canadian Government at all.

Canada Car has a new contract for Hurricanes which brings them up to a total of six hundred and this was allocated to them by Morris Wilson, representing Beaverbrook, although the contract will probably be signed by the Department of Munitions and Supplies in Ottawa.

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