



ON SEPTEMBER 10 Canadians solemnly marked the third anniversary of war. In three of the most eventful years in the history of mankind they found small cause for celebration. For they had seen liberty wrenched from free men, democracy smashed in a dozen countries, and Axis aggression, sweeping all before it, reach flood tide.

Three years before it was Germany, calculating, brutal and prepared, that had set in motion the flood that swept around the world. In the first war against Germany, Canada had built a formidable army of more than 600,000 men, an army that had won a name for bravery and daring. It had equipped those men with many of their weapons. But 25 years after the calm of surrender had settled over the blood-soaked fields of France the science of war had been forgotten in the task of building a nation.

On September 10, 1939, Canada took up the new challenge. But it was prepared neither in men nor weapons for war. The men of the fighting forces were scarcely more numerous than a police force. There were few weapons and few machines for making them.

Initial preparations were soon inadequate. Rapid improvisation and expansion of plans were necessitated by the changing face of hostilities, from the attack on Poland and the period of "phony" war to the struggle of giants in Russia and the Japanese stab at Pearl Harbour. The effort of the nation was doubled and redoubled with the progression of Axis conquests: Poland, Denmark, Norway, France, the Lowlands, Dunkirk, the Battle of the Atlantic, Pearl Harbour and

Hong Kong. Plans for the battles of France became plans for the defence of Britain, the defence of China, of Russia, of Australia and eventually of the whole world. Preparations for defence became plans for offence.

Long before the end of the third year of war Canada had made her commitments to the United Nations. Those commitments were: the men of Canada will be used in whatever battlefield the strategy of the United Nations dictates; weapons from Canadian factories will be sent wherever the hands of free men are ready to turn them against the enemy; the food from the farms of this country will feed and sustain free men; and no economic barriers will thwart the fulfillment of these pledges.

THE Royal Canadian Navy answered its first war-time enquiry: "When can you start convoy duty?" with a laconic "At once."

For three years these Canadian ocean terriers, battle-wise and tough, have hunted undersea raiders. At any time of the day or night Canadian anti-submarine vessels are searching for their quarry on the turbulent waters of the Atlantic, graveyard of countless United Nations ships.

From a force of 1,800 men and 15 ships the Royal Canadian Navy has grown to more than 41,000 men, maintaining nearly 500 vessels on active duty. More than 1,000 men of the force are serving with the Royal Navy on the seven seas. The Navy is now in the Western Atlantic with the United States Navy and the Royal Navy fighting the greatest U-boat campaign of the war.



Essentially a convoy navy, it is helping in the vital task of keeping open the sealanes to United Nations shipping. The only limitation placed upon future growth is that imposed by ships and training establishments available.

IN THE British Isles thousands of Canadian soldiers, bronzed, hardened and skilled in the use of the most modern weapons are ready for battle in Europe.

Their training, their weapons and their spirits are testimony to the months and years of preparation. Few, very few of these men are professional soldiers. They are soldier-citizens—farmers, clerks, lawyers, men from every walk of life—who have swelled the ranks of the Canadian Army in three years from 4,500 to more than 350,000. There are other men with "Canada" shoulder badges as far afield as Alaska, Newfoundland and the West Indies.

There are thousands of soldiers manning home defences, backed by a Reserve Army of 120,000 men.

Not until December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Hong Kong did Canadian troops see action in this war. There, outnumbered, they fought beside British and Empire troops until the island fortress was battered into submission. Eight months elapsed before the second large Canadian action on land. At Dieppe the Germans received a foretaste of Canadian fighting ability.

In quality one of the best armies in the world, Canada's Army waits confidently for the great battles ahead.



IN THREE YEARS Canada has built an Airdrome of Democracy, where young fliers are trained to fly the planes of the mighty United Nations Air Armada. In a great measure Canadian achievement has enabled the allied nations to wrest air supremacy from the Axis.

Men from Canada's British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, a great majority of them Canadians, are engaged on every battlefield. They are writing a history of Canadian daring in the air over Britain, the European Continent, the Middle and Far East, Alaska, and wherever United Nations aircraft are fighting. Nearly 25 fully operational squadrons have been established by the R.C.A.F. in Britain, in addition to squadrons in the Middle East and Ceylon.

From 4,000 men the Royal Canadian Air Force has grown in three years to more than 125,000 men. Its chief task has been the creation and administration of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Blueprints were drawn up by the four partners to the Plan in December, 1939. It went into operation well ahead of schedule and has been considerably expanded. The new Plan, which is in effect from July 1 to March 31, 1945, will cost \$1,500,000,000, half of which will be paid by Canada. About 60% of the graduates will be Canadian.

An R.C.A.F. bomber group is being formed overseas and all-Canadian fighter stations have been formed.

The nation is giving "the very cream of the youth of Canada" to aerial warfare and this contribution is making itself felt in growing Allied supremacy in the air.



EXPANSION of Canada's munitions industry in three years has been an outstanding feat of enterprise and perseverance in the face of great difficulties.

From July 14, 1939, Canadian plants received orders for munitions and materials of war totalling more than \$5,000,000,000 covering a wide range of products from soldiers' clothing to great naval guns and tanks.

When Canada went to war there was practically no capacity in the country for munitions production. Huge new industries were created and existing establishments expanded. Such weapons as tanks, artillery and machine guns were made for the first time. Explosives, chemicals and ammunitions were produced in new factories. Optical glass, once entirely imported, was made in a brand-new plant. Before the war the Canadian airplane industry was very small, employing about 1,000 persons. At the end of the third year of war more than 400 planes were made monthly.

Production in this country was co-ordinated with that of the United States and the raw materials of the North American Continent were pooled and distributed for the most efficient production of the Continent as a single integrated unit.

Looking back on three years of war Canadians have the satisfaction of knowing munitions from armament plants of the nation have been used in every battle since Dunkirk. When peak output is reached Canadian munitions will be shipped to every theatre of war in great quantity.

FROM the first week of war Canada's great agricultural output has been fighting on the side of the allied nations. Increased greatly it has filled critical gaps in the United Kingdom larder. The Canadian farmer, in addition to meeting increased demands at home, has provided great quantities of food for shipment abroad.

Enough wheat has been grown and stored to meet foreseeable demands for some time to come and to feed the countries conquered by the Axis when they are freed. About 1,350,000,000 lbs. of bacon and pork products have been shipped to Britain since the war began, in addition to nearly 300,000,000 lbs. of cheese and nearly 94,000,000 cans of evaporated milk. By the end of this year 70,000,000 dozens of eggs will have been sent to Britain. A wide variety of other products such as fruit, vegetables, honey, breakfast food and fish are supplied to the British people.

In making both food and munitions available to allies Canada has extended extensive financial aid to prevent any restriction in the flow of goods abroad. An outright gift of \$1,000,000,000 is being made this year to Britain. Financial help in the form of repatriated securities and loans from the first of the war to March 31 this year totalled \$1,521,700,000.

WITH THE Canadian war effort expanding daily Canadians are feeling the impact of war—a steady progression of restrictions upon where they may work, how much money they can earn, what they can eat, where they can travel, what they can buy and how much they have to pay for goods.

By the end of three years of war shortages of human resources had become acute. There were more than 550,000 Canadians in the fighting services; 900,000 engaged in some form of war production; 1,250,000 on farms; 300,000 in essential utilities and mining, and 2,000,000 in civilian industries. The most efficient use

of all manpower necessitated a program of national selective service, which directed men and women into jobs where their services would be of the greatest value to the war effort.

Wages and salaries were fixed in the economic mobilization, and a system of bonus payments instituted to bring wages into line with wartime living costs. Prices were frozen at December 1, 1941, to choke off a threat of inflation. Gasoline, sugar, coffee and tea were rationed. Many commodities, such as rubber, tin and silk, which come from territory held by the enemy, were denied civilians. Production of numerous manufactures such as automobiles, radios, washing machines, electrical appliances, was either curtailed or entirely eliminated.

Pocketbooks became war casualties. Taxes were raised in each successive budget. Objective in 1942-43 is for expenditure of \$3,200,000,000, equal to \$278 for each Canadian, and about twice the entire cost of the First Great War.

Great energy and enthusiasm is being thrown into voluntary war organizations operating on the home front. More than \$52,000,000 has been contributed to more than 5,000 organizations in all parts of the country.

This then is Canada's record of three years of war. The end of the struggle is not in sight. There are more hardships and sacrifices to come. The Dieppe stage of the conflict has been reached and great battles loom in the future. Amongst the nations of the world Canada is small, but as its effort flows into the stream of freedom it quickens the cleansing tide of an allied victory.

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