



CANADA'S WAR RECORD

June, 1942



CANADA went to war on September 10, 1939, for the second time in a generation, to defend the Canadian way of life, to remove the threat against North America and the British Commonwealth of Nations, and to restore the freedom of the nations trampled under the Nazi heel.

All the resources of the Dominion are pledged to this purpose. With one-fifteenth of the national income of the United States, and one-twelfth the population, Canada now has more than 470,000 men in the Active Army, the Air Force and the Navy, in addition to more than 130,000 in the Reserve Army. Between 600,000 and 700,000 men and women are directly and indirectly engaged in the production of war materials. Twice as

much is being spent this year as in the whole of the First Great War. War contracts placed in Canada since July, 1939, are valued at more than \$4,000,000,000, an amount considerably greater than the country's national debt prior to September, 1939.

In the cause of the United Nations, Canadian sailors and merchant seamen are serving on the seven seas; Canadian airmen are fighting in several world battlefronts; and in Britain Canadian soldiers stand poised to attack.

Britain—the bridgehead for any attack on the Continent of Europe—is sustained by Canadian food and munitions. This year Canada is making a \$1,000,000,000 gift of food, raw materials and munitions to Britain, as well as extending an interest-free loan of \$700,000,000.

The products of new war factories are flowing to the United Nations. The American forces at Bataan were helped by Canadian-made weapons. The Chinese have received important shipments. The Army of the Nile rides into battle in Canadian armoured vehicles. Hundreds of tanks from the Dominion have seen action in Russia.

Important also is Canada's wealth of raw materials: nickel, copper, asbestos and other products of the mine. The aerial armadas of democracy fly on wings of aluminum smelted in Canada.

The United States and Canada are converting this continent into a vast reservoir of materials and men for victory. They are meshing war production and pooling raw materials. The armed services of both countries would be used to repel any attack on this hemisphere.

American Army engineers are building a military highway from the United States to Alaska to parallel the existing chain of airports built by Canada.



IN NO ENDEAVOUR has Canada's effort been more remarkable than in the field of production. Lack of skilled men, lack of machines and plants were formidable obstacles to be hurdled before ambitious production goals could be reached. With Dunkirk came a new realization of the task ahead. All previous objectives were vastly increased. Today, two years after Dunkirk, Canada has a great and growing munitions industry.

The flood of munitions from these factories is illustrated by the few facts that can be told. More than \$550,000,000 is being spent for shipbuilding. Every four days a 10,000-ton cargo ship is launched. More than 250,000 military vehicles have been sent to the fighting fronts. From an infant industry of 1,000 men, aircraft plants now employ more than 40,000 workers. About 2,000 employees are being added every month. Four hundred planes are completed monthly. Canada has let airplane contracts on its own account worth nearly \$400,000,000.

The majority of munitions plants are now fully tooled and staffed and are approaching peak production. Rifles, machine guns, sub-machine guns, naval guns, 25-pounders, anti-aircraft and anti-tank guns are being made in increasing numbers. In six months more explosives are being produced than in the whole of the last war.

The output of ammunition now exceeds all previous records. The 100,000th 500-lb. aerial bomb was recently completed. Factories in the country are making hundreds of thousands of shells of 18 different types each month.

In Canada's munitions program almost every variety of modern weapon and military equipment is being made.

Food

ONE of the vital divisions of Canada's war effort is the production and shipment of agricultural products. In the national selective service plan for mobilizing manpower the necessity for maintaining full production is recognized by the stabilization of farm labour.

Prairie farmers grow vast quantities of grain to meet British and Canadian needs. Not less than 600,000,000 pounds of bacon and pork products will be shipped to Britain this year. More is now being delivered in a single week than in the whole of 1931. Cheese totalling 115,000,000 pounds and nearly 32,000,000 one-lb. cans of evaporated milk were shipped to Britain in the past year. Export of eggs this year will be 50 times the pre-war volume.

Men

BY channelling men from non-essential work into the armed services and war industries Canada is mobilizing her manpower resources for war. A national selective service program has been placed in effect for that purpose. A long list of restricted occupations has been designated into which fit men of military age cannot enter.

This year 200,000 more men are needed for the services. Many thousands of men are being called up for compulsory military service. War industry requires 100,000 workers, many of whom must be women. Women are being called upon to replace men so far as possible in civilian occupations and to enlist for non-combatant duties in the armed forces.

All males between 17 and 69 not gainfully employed must register and report thereafter every two weeks until employed.



THE Royal Canadian Navy was founded only 32 years ago, but it draws its inspiration from the centuries-old tradition of the Royal Navy.

Among the navies of the world Canada's sea force is not large. But its rate of expansion has no parallel. Since the outbreak of war its manpower has been multiplied 18 times to more than 33,000, and its ships, 30 times to more than 400. Thousands of recruits are waiting to enlist. By next April the Navy will have a strength of 44,000 men and 500 ships. More than 1,100 Canadians are serving in ships of the Royal Navy.

The expansion of the Canadian Navy is limited by the number of ships available for duty. Destroyers, corvettes, minesweepers and many types of smaller vessels are being rushed to completion for the Navy in Canadian shipyards.

The task of the Navy is threefold: to guard the Canadian coasts, to seek out and attack the enemy, and to escort convoys of cargo ships and troop transports.

The most notable service of the Canadian Navy has been in convoying munitions-laden merchant ships. Its duties have been further increased by the westward extension of U-boat operations into Canada's home waters.

U-boat attacks have, in fact, been carried into Canada's inland waterways. Two merchant vessels have been sunk by torpedoes in the St. Lawrence River. Enemy action in these waters was not unexpected as it had been forecast by the Chief of the Naval Staff.

In the current year the estimated cost of the Navy's operations is \$260,000,000, equal to the total spent in the previous two and a half years of war.



THE Dominion is developing an army overseas, which for its size, will be the most heavily armoured and hardest hitting force in the world.

Army expenditures this year will total \$1,000,000,000. Canada is determined to spare no expense in ensuring that Canadian soldiers are second to none in training and unexcelled in the quality of their arms and equipment.

At home, since the outbreak of war with Japan, Canada has been increasingly concerned with the defence of her territory. The tempo of defence preparations has been accelerated. The East and West Coast areas have been placed under two commands. The air, sea and land services in these areas have been placed under the single command of the senior officer in the territory.

To give mobile reserve support for existing and projected defences on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the 7th and 8th divisions are being mobilized. The Reserve Army of more than 130,000 is being revitalized to strengthen home defences.

The Active Army now numbers more than 320,000, a large percentage of whom are overseas. The army in Britain is being reinforced by a steady stream of new contingents to bring it up to projected strength of three infantry divisions and two armoured divisions, in addition to two army tank brigades and thousands of ancillary troops and reinforcements.

The army overseas is being trained in commando-type tactics in preparation for more lightning assaults on enemy-held territory, and for the day when it will be in the spearhead of invasion forces.



YOUNG AIRMEN from Canadian air schools are manning many of the huge four-motored bombers which are raining destruction on German targets. Rostock, Luebeck, Cologne, and Essen are names which will glow in the annals of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Graduates of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan form a large part of the forces which are attacking German Europe in steadily mounting fury.

Canadian squadrons are also flying in Ceylon and the Middle East. Individual Canadians are serving with Royal Air Force units wherever they are fighting.

The most important task of the R.C.A.F. is administration of the Air Training Plan, which is now in full operation. This plan is training Empire aircrew and other categories of airmen. Canada has offered the facilities of this air university to any of the United Nations. The R.C.A.F. now has a total personnel of more than 115,000, exclusive of attached Commonwealth airmen.

An increasing number of Canadian graduates of the Air Training Plan will be retained in Canada for home defence. The estimated expenditure for home war establishment this year is more than twice last year's figure.

In a message to the Ottawa air training conference of 14 United Nations in Ottawa in May, President Roosevelt referred to Canada as the "Airdrome of Democracy." At this conference it was announced that a combined air training committee, headed by an American, would be set up in Washington, with representatives from the United States, Great Britain and Canada.

The Home Front

BECAUSE war is taking much of Canada's energies and materials these days, Canadians are called upon to make heavy financial sacrifices and forego many of the goods and services of peacetime.

The Dominion Government needs \$10 millions every day this year. Nearly \$9 millions of these dollars will go to war. This year the Dominion Government will spend about \$3,700,000,000, more than seven times the amount spent in peacetime.

As part of the carefully integrated system of economic controls, wages and salaries have been stabilized and a general price ceiling has been placed on goods and services.

Motor cars, radios, and many other consumers goods are no longer being made. Manufacture of all kinds of "non-essential" goods is being curtailed. "Frills" are being eliminated and variety is lessened. Gasoline is strictly rationed. The use of sugar is restricted to half a pound a person weekly. Consumption of tea has been cut by half, and coffee by one-quarter.

This leaflet is a condensation of a booklet entitled "Canada at War," and is revised up to June 1, 1942. Both booklet and leaflet are issued monthly, and may be obtained regularly by writing to the Director of Public Information, Ottawa, Canada.

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