

Reconsecration to Democracy Marks 3rd Year of War

Canadians to Honour Defenders, Remember War Dead, by Pledges to Greater Effort for Victory

Two Year Record of Transformation from Peace to High-Ranking Fighting Nation is Huge Democratic Achievement in Drive to Free World of Tyranny

Twelve million Canadians—still free—stand girded for their third year of war to preserve that freedom. September 10, 1939, those twelve millions, unhesitatingly and their own free will, elected to resist the challenge of unprovoked Nazi aggressors, and thus vowed never to lay aside the sword until the world truly shall be safe for all peoples, little as well as big, minorities as well as majorities.

September 10, 1941, ends two years of Canada at war. And the Government of Canada has proclaimed the week of September 10-17 as "a week of reconsecration of the Canadian people to the democratic cause against Nazi tyranny...in national honor for those who, on land, on the sea and in the air, are defenders of our country, and in proud memory for those valiant hearts who have gone out from among us by the most precious of all sacrifices for our common freedom."

Two years of war! When the mailed fist of ambition-grazed German overlords struck down Poland only twenty-four months ago, Canada was a counter-part of that "nation of shopkeepers" scorned a century since by the first of the European dictators to meet his Waterloo. Domestic business, export trade, the old "live and let live" comprised the backdrop of the Canadian scene. The nation eyed no others' territory, harbored no furtive designs against others' way of life. Canadians were devotees to the North American formula of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Of war spirit there was no sign. Canadian armaments were insignificant; planned that way because it was purely for defence. And Canadian factories were tooled more for ploughshares than for swords.

But when Prussian Junkerdom marched once more, this time under the hated Swastika of ruthless Nazis, Canada tossed away her peacetime ease and dreams, closed her ranks, and stood proudly with other nations of the British Commonwealth. In the two years, the Dominion has set a mark in voluntary war effort high unsurpassed in the history of peaceful, democratic nations. Let us look at the record.

490,000 in Armed Forces

Two years ago, Canada's soldiers and airmen, including reserves, all together totalled a mere 68,000 officers and men. Today, the fighting forces, including reserves, number 490,000 of all ranks.

Two years ago, the Canadian Army comprised 4,500 in the Permanent Force and 55,000 in the Non-Permanent Active Militia. Today, there are 230,000 volunteers in the Canadian Active Army, 170,000 trainees and volunteers in the Canadian Army (Reserve). Single men aged 21 to 24 are now being drafted for the Canadian Active Army on Home Defence.

Two years ago, the Royal Canadian Navy had but 3,600 officers and ratings and thirteen vessels. Today, the Navy has grown to more than 23,000 and 250 vessels—destroyers, armed merchant cruisers, corvettes, minesweepers, patrol and anti-submarine craft.

Two years ago, the Royal Canadian Air Force mustered about 5,000 of all classifications; today they number 67,000.

Two years ago, Canada was spending less than \$1,000,000 a day on arms. Today, the nation is spending nearly \$4,000,000. This year Canadians will put into voluntary war effort about 40 cents of every dollar earned.

Two years ago, war material production was next to nothing. Today factories from coast to coast are mobilized night and day to turn out grim weapons of war, and about one-half of all Canadians engaged in manufacture are employed on war orders.

While these two years have been mainly for catching up with the armed dictators—preparing, equipping, mobilizing and training, Canada also has been in the thick of the fight.

In the British Isles today are more than 100,000 Canadian soldiers,

sailors and airmen. Over 1,200 Canadians have figured on casualty lists; 736 of them killed on action, 195 missing, the remainder dead from natural causes.

Three Divisions Overseas

Overseas are the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Canadian divisions and ancillary units of all kinds. The 5th (Armoured) Division of mechanized units is preparing to sail this year. Along the steel-ringed coasts of Britain crouch Canadian gunners behind powerful batteries, on ceaseless vigil for the invader who has yet to make good his boast that he will come. In the honor sector, which will be the most important of all should Hitler ever attempt invasion, are Canadian divisions, trained to the minute, chosen above all Empire troops as the spearhead of Britain's own defence. Almost daily Canadians perform the deadly task of removing unexploded bombs showered by German raiders. They build coastal and interior defences, and new military roads for fast-moving mechanized fighters. They repair wrecked telephone and telegraph networks. Night and day they sweep the skies with radio locators, to warn of the approach of hostile planes. They undertake forestry work in the timbered areas. They are borrowing deeper into the Rock to strengthen defences of coveted Gibraltar. They are on outpost duty in Newfoundland and the West Indies; have guarded Iceland.

Only the worst of soldiers' luck has stood between Canadian soldiers and land fighting with the Nazi hordes. In April, 1940, Canadians were enroute to Norway when strategy veered and they were landed in Scotland. Two months later, they were landed in Brittany but, before they could come to grips with the Germans, were withdrawn to England when Allied generals saw that further operations in France would be suicidal.

Canadian airmen have won undying glory. They have fought over Britain, France, Dunkirk, Germany, Libya, the Middle East, and off Norway. The "All Canadian" squadron of the Royal Air Force, veterans of many a dog fight, were the last to leave France; and they did not quit until they had downed more than 30 German planes in various stages of the Battle of France. During the Battle of London, this squadron destroyed fifty-five German raiders in six fights, losing only two pilots. Squadrons of the Royal Canadian Air Force, both fighters and bombers, are now ranging far over enemy territory in the sweeps that daily and nightly weaken German fighting power; and they are undertaking valuable reconnaissance work over all sectors of the British front.

Nav: Has Fine Record

The Royal Canadian Navy has achieved a fine record. In cooperation with the Royal Navy, it has convoyed freighters carrying more than 30,000,000 tons of supplies. It has fought and destroyed U-boats, captured several enemy vessels and forced the scuttling of more, aided in the evacuation of France, rescued seamen and passengers from bombed and torpedoed ships.

Defence of Canada's own shores is tightening. Along Atlantic and Pacific coasts are patrolling air squadrons, anti-aircraft and coastal batteries, supporting divisions of troops.

In two years, all this Canadian fighting power. Yet it is not enough.

The 4th Division is completing its training. A 6th Canadian Active Army Division is being assembled. Significant of the widening field in which Canadians may fight is the announcement that, whereas up to now it has been accepted that training of Canadian Troops would be "finished" after arrival in Europe, henceforth Canadian soldiers are to be completely trained and equipped at home so that they can go into action the moment they set foot on the soil of any continent.

The Canadian Active Army is calling for at least 7,000 volunteers per month. The Royal Canadian Navy plans to increase its ships from 250 to 400 and to boost its personnel from 23,000 to 27,000 by March of

next year. The Royal Canadian Air Force is to send more and more blue-clad squadrons overseas; to the 1,000 radio locator experts and other specialists already in Britain are to be added another 2,500, to go this year. And Canadian Women are to be voluntarily enlisted in auxiliary forces of the Army, and the Air Force, to release more and more fighting men for active duty overseas. Home defence drafts are to be continually swelled and they, too, will take the places of active service volunteers now on defence duty.

Behind these formidable front-line organizations is a mighty Canadian war mechanism, mobilizing men, women, machines, money and resources dedicated to providing "the tools," which hardy Canadian merchant seamen will deliver across bomb and torpedo-infested waters.

Billions for War Effort

The two-year record of civilian mobilization in Canada is as impressive as the achievements of Canadians on the fighting fronts.

Money came first. In the first six and half months of war, Canada spent about \$118,000,000 on preliminaries. In the year which closed March 31 last, war expenditure rose to \$792,000,000. All told, the Canadian war bill to March 31 was about \$1,400,000,000 including more than \$500,000,000 to finance purchases for Britain. And in the fiscal year to end March 31 next, more than \$2,000,000,000 will go for war.

Unflinchingly Canadians have borne heavier taxes, imposed to set spending on a "pay as you go" basis as far as possible so as to lighten the post-war mortgage. They have, in two years, bought war bonds and war savings certificates worth \$1,460,000,000 and by next March it is expected another \$200,000,000 in civilian savings will have been tipped into the war chest. During the war period, moreover, thousands of Canadians—and Americans have made outright gifts to the Government, reaching nearly \$2,000,000.

Where has the money gone; where is it going?

War contracts and commitments of all kinds, made in behalf both of Canada and of Britain, now total far above \$2,000,000,000. Over \$520,000,000 have been advanced for plant construction and expansion, and materials. During this fiscal year, Canada will provide between \$800,000,000 and \$900,000,000 in Canadian dollars to help Britain. In addition to the huge sums swallowed up for maintenance of the armed forces, Canada is committed to spend some \$531,000,000 on the gigantic British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, which embraces over 100 air fields and more than 120 establishments of all kinds for the training and graduation of thousands of air fighters from Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States. There are \$110,000,000 for a defence building programme which includes \$20,000,000 for strategic air bases. About \$120,000,000 are going into a naval building programme; another \$8,000,000 for small craft. Orders totalling \$100,000,000 have been placed for personal and maintenance equipment for the men in all branches of the service. One Government-owned concern alone has orders for \$48,000,000 worth of precision instruments and products, including radio locators. And more

than one hundred 4,700—and 9,300 ton freighters are to be built in Canadian shipyards, to cost about \$200,000,000.

Country Is Arsenal

Thus, in two years, Canada has

meadows of a year ago now sprout huge workshops. Drowsy countryside, as well as seething city, vibrates to the hum of machines forging the shackles on tyranny and paganism.

Reconsecration Week Prayer

O Lord of Hosts, in this time of our reconsecration to Thy service and in defence of the light brought into this world by Thy beloved Son, we turn to Thee in prayer. We pray for our fighting men on land, on the sea and in the air that they may be imbued with courage to persevere and strength to vanquish the dark forces which now seek to rule this earth. We pray for endurance for all those who, in any way, are engaged in this great conflict, and, for our peoples, understanding of the truth. We pray for mercy for the stricken, consolation for the bereaved and eternal rest for those who, having blazed the path, have been gathered to Thine arms.

These things we ask O Lord, so that in the fullness of time the dread conflict may cease, the right may triumph, and our children be brought up to serve. Thee and to do those things which are of good renown, to know and to spread the Christian light. Amen.

Reconsecration Week Grace

For the courage of our fighting men and the devotion of those who stand behind them for our continued freedom and for these blessings of our unscarred earth, we give thanks in this week of reconsecration to The Lord of Hosts, who is the only defender of the right. Amen

won the lofty title of "Arsenal of Democracy."

Factories work night and day to produce a continuous and ever-increasing stream of vitally-needed war supplies. Little plants have grown big. Corn patches and lush

In expanded yards, more than 20,000 shipworkers have turned out over 100 naval vessels and more than 350 smaller craft. Planes, from primary trainers to big bombers, are coming off production lines at the rate of more than 2,000 a year

Women Do Their Bit

This tremendous war production comes from scores of thousands of

war workers, some of them experts and specialists with years of experience, many more green hands from offices, farm and counter who have been trained to war duty. Among them are thousands of women and girls. The manicurist swaps orange stick for riveting gun; secretary and chambermaid stand shoulder to shoulder on assembly and inspection lines. All work long hours under pressure, to keep faith with production schedules and to insure that Canadians overseas, their allies as well shall not lack the wherewithal to finish the job.

On the farm, too, production of certain commodities has been expanded to meet needs of Canada's men and of Britain. By the end of this year, it is estimated Canada will have sent 800,000,000 pounds of pork products to the Mother Country. By the end of this month, 15,300,000 dozen eggs will have crossed the Atlantic. Some 7,000,000 barrels of flour and 200,000,000 bushels of wheat have been loaded in two years of war, and recently Canadians undertook to deliver 120,000,000 bushels more by the end of next May. Millions of pounds of concentrated milk have been shipped, thousand of tons of canned goods, about 13,000,000 lbs. of honey, and two-thirds of the canned salmon pack is under commitment to Britain this year. More than 112,000,000 lbs. of cheese will be overseas by next March. Base metals and timbers have been rivals of weapons and munitions in the convoyed shipments.

But this is not the sum of Canada's aid to Britain.

Canada's tankers have been mustered into Britain's life-line fleets. Canada's ship repair yards are open to damaged British craft. Help for bombed civilians, purchase of extra planes, supplies for people driven from their homes in the blitz, make up a great part of the \$20,000,000 which Canadians have voluntarily contributed for auxiliary war service needs.

Children Safe from Blitz

To remove Fifth Columnists and prisoners of war, who might constitute a menace to Britain should invasion come, Canada has admitted these undesirable "immigrants" for the duration, but takes the precaution of internment in camps

mainly set in remote spots under guard by Canadian Volunteers. Finally, Canadians have opened their homes to evacuate children from the British Isles. Today, more than 6,000 little ones are far removed from the horror of the bombs; around 100,000 would have been accommodated had ships been available to bring them to this side. There is still more.

Civilian Canada, those men, and women who are unable to share the thrill of actual combat, have mobilized themselves magnificently in a thousand activities which reveal the will to win.

From sea to sea, banker and baker, ordinary business men of all classes, have heeded the call to service and voluntarily enrolled in various organizations which train them for air raid precaution duties. Scores of outstanding business executives have become "dollar a year" men, giving their services to the country and holding key positions in the war setup. More than 10 per cent of Canada's doctors are on active service. Savants of all kinds—scientists especially—have offered their skill and knowledge to the Government. Engineers have worked out emergency systems for maintaining public services in large communities should air raids on Canada be staged. In battalions, community leaders have given time and effort to organizing, and pushing to success, war loan, war services and many other drives to raise funds, directly and indirectly for the war effort.

And the women! More and more is this becoming a women's war. Hundreds of graduate nurses are on active service, and many of them already are overseas with the troops. Women's organizations, and individuals in their homes, are providing clothing and many other comforts for civilians and fighters in the war areas. Hundreds are packing and shipping parcels of food to the Empire's prisoners of war in Germany, and other countries.

Families Salvage Scrap

More than 10,000 Canadian women are estimated to be in the uniforms of women's volunteer organizations such as the Canadian Auxiliary Territorial Service and



Drawing by Grant Macdonald



Going special delivery is this item. LEFT, in the cargo of a Wellington bomber manned by Canadians, who are going to make sure their parcel is delivered at the right address. The Nazis are finding that the explosives they have dropped so indiscriminately on British cities, are now bouncing back, like rubber cheques, with disastrous results. The R.A.F. and R.C.A.F. join hands in the first Canadian bomber



squadron, which is manned by Canadian members of the R.A.F. and others belonging to the Royal Canadian Air Force who have been trained under the Empire Training scheme. At RIGHT, the Canadian crew arrives by lorry and boards a Wellington bomber, about to take off for a raid over Germany