

Our War in Europe

To the right is depicted in summary form the physical side of Canada's five and a half years of progress toward victory in Europe. These men and women at work and at war, these munitions, foodstuffs and supplies are the tangible results of our national will and the web of money, material and manpower controls we have employed to reach our goal.

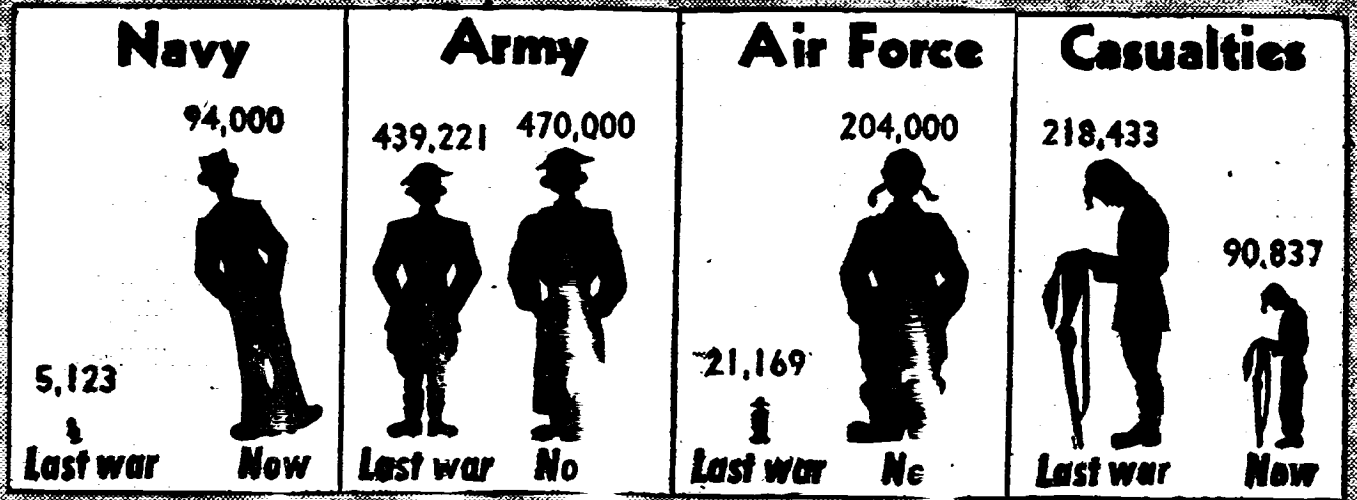
Almost as significant as the totals themselves is the fact that most of this war effort has been based on the economic structure of 1939. While important additions to our productive capacity have taken place, only three of the basic raw materials of industry—steel, aluminum and electric power—have shown major expansion. Outside of these and a few other cases where basic resources have been added to, virtually all of Canada's war effort has been based on the full utilization of the resources that had been built up through long years of enterprising freedom.

149
WAR
EUROPEAN
1939
CANADA

Background to Victory in Europe

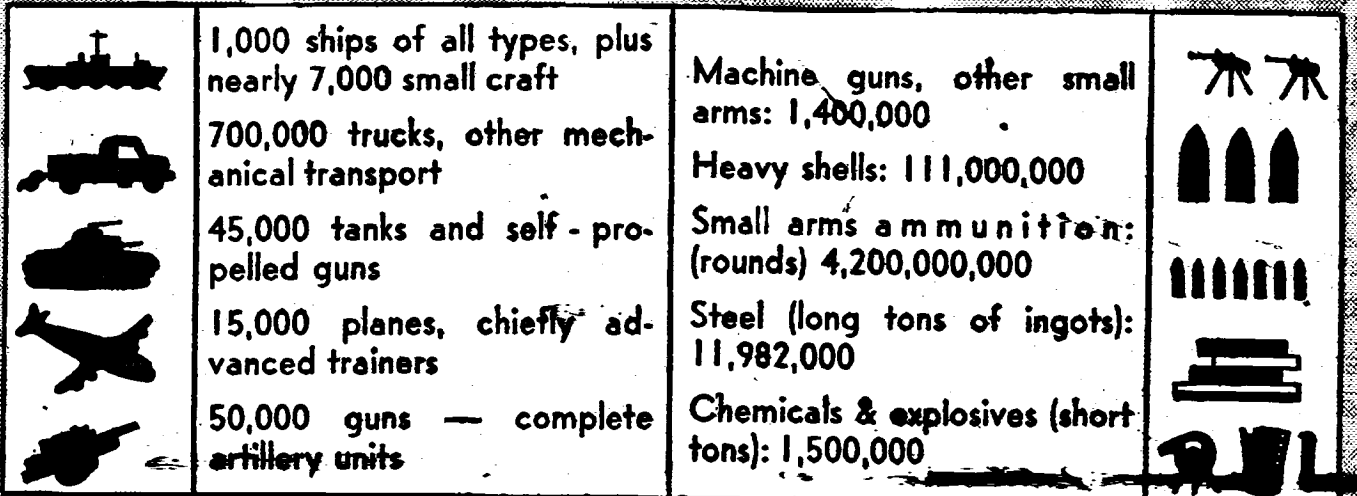
The Canadian Fighters

No cold figures can measure the true significance of Canada's contribution to United Victory in Europe. More important, perhaps, than the total weight of Canada's effort was its timing. In 1940, when the British nations faced the axis alone, Canada was the second strongest power opposing Hitler. Since those days when the light so nearly flickered out, three quarters of a million Canadians in uniform have established a military record unexcelled by any.



Canadian War Supplies

These are some of the weapons Canadians at home forged for our forces and our allies. To the end of 1944, the Department of Munitions & Supply and its predecessors spent nearly \$14 billions—more than three times our pre-war national income. To produce the complex weapons of a mechanized war, Canadians became for a time inhabitants of a giant arsenal. Of the munitions and war supplies purchased, 53% went to members of the British Commonwealth outside Canada, 12% went to the United States, 1% to other United Nations.



Canadian Aid to Allies

With the munitions of war has gone aid in other forms: metals, food, lumber — many other Canadian products. Canada's new synthetic rubber plant, after only 15 months' operation, was able to supply essential Canadian needs and export to our allies as well. British nutritionists have said that without Canadian bacon, cheese, eggs, other farm products, Britain's diet might have sunk to starvation level. Much of the aid to the nations in the forefront of the battle went under Mutual Aid (Canada's Lend-Lease plan), or as a free gift to the beleaguered

Metals

Canada supplies . . .

85% of the nickel
78% of the asbestos
35% of the aluminum
20% of the zinc
14% of the copper

. . . used by the United Nations

Mutual Aid and Gifts

	(Millions)
United Kingdom*	\$2,500
Russia†	23
Australia†	21
China†	4
Total including other	*\$3,900

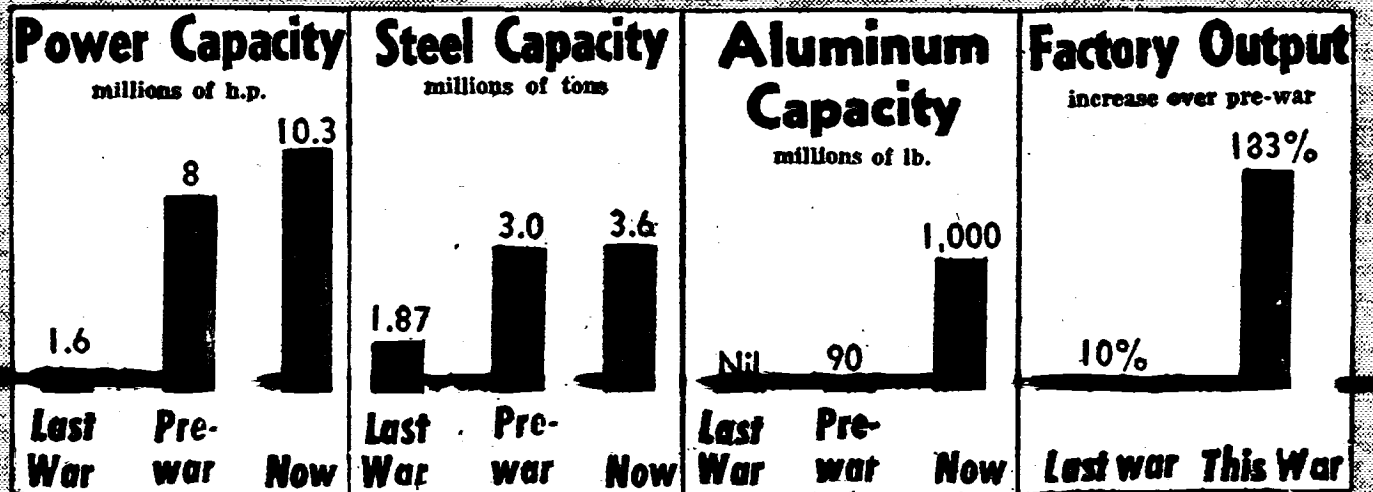
*Est. to Mar. 31, 1945.
†To Mar. 31, 1944.

Trade

	(Millions)	
	Imports	Exports
1940	\$1,082	\$1,193
1941	1,449	1,640
1942	1,644	2,385
1943	1,735	3,001
1944	1,759	3,484
TOTAL TRADE		
This war	\$19,372	
Last war	7,852	

Canadian Industrial Might

Canada went into the war an agricultural nation, with much of her industrial potential undeveloped. When France fell in 1940, and Canada became chief supplier to blitzed Britain, an enlarged, fast-moving industry became imperative. By mid-1943 nearly 40% of Canada's adult population was in non-agricultural industry, only 11% on farms. New industries were developed, old ones worked at top speed. Typical was the steel industry, basic to war—which turned out enough ingots to make a double-track railway around the entire world.



The Canadian People

Behind all this stand the Canadian people, who enlisted in the armed forces, or worked on the home front harder and longer than ever before. More than 65% of the 8.9 million Canadians over 13 years old are in the armed forces, in industry, or on farms. Most of the other 35% are homemakers and students, fully occupied. Half the national production has been devoted to war. Canadians know this is the greatest united effort they have ever made, are conscious that its scope and magnitude have set new goals for reconstruction and a lasting peace.

