

# War Factories Receive News Jubilantly, Sanely

The men and women in Toronto war plants who produced the weapons that helped win the unconditional surrender of Germany yesterday received the news of victory jubilantly but sanely.

The shrill note of the factory whistles signalling the end of the war in Europe touched off few wild or spontaneous demonstrations in the war plants. There was no unrestrained cheering or shouting in the majority of the plants to echo the tumult in the streets below. Keyed for days to the news of victory, some of the women workers broke down and wept.

Though most of the plants began shutting down at 11 o'clock, the busy hum of the machines continued throughout the day in other plants whose production was geared to the needs of the Pacific war. However, all plants will remain closed today, reopening tomorrow morning.

Voicing the reaction of many war workers was the sober comment of Earl Dixon, wounded veteran, and Massey Harris employee:

"It's very good news. But I'll be glad when all the boys get back."

## Cars Blow Horns

In the few plants where the news was greeted with demonstrative exuberance, happy, yelling war workers spilled out into the bright sunshine, milling through the factory yards. Hundreds of autos were started—bandana wearing girls drove up and down the streets, blowing horns in one continuous blast.

But this was the exception. Most of the employees delayed their celebration until their return home; others until they were caught in the human tide that swirled back and forth through the downtown area.

At John Inglis, the news of the German surrender was broadcast over the plant's loudspeaker system at 10:15 a.m., followed by an appeal to the workers to stay on

the job during the day, since most of the plant's production was for the Pacific theatre. The announcement was followed by playing of "God Save the King."

## Plane Plant Closes

Thrilled at the long-awaited news of victory, most of the employees at the De Havilland Aircraft plant were too excited, too restless to carry on their normal operations, though the announcement of Germany's surrender was greeted quietly. While original plans called for a full working day, the management decided to close down at noon, since most of the employees were too tense with excitement to work. Production will be resumed with the day-shift tomorrow.

Whistles, horns and other noise-making gadgets which mushroomed up from nowhere boisterously marked the announcement at Research Enterprises, Ltd. The majority of employees adhered to instructions to stay at their benches for the day, since Research also was geared to production for the Pacific front. But from time to time, groups of employees gave expression to their pent-up emotions by impromptu celebrations on the production floors. The plant will be closed today for both day and night shifts.

The screaming whistle at Massey-Harris sent the plant's employees streaming home at 11 a.m. The victory broadcast throughout the plant was a general signal that the day's work was over.

After a conference between the union committee and the management, Victory Aircraft, conforming with the feeling of most of the employees, closed down at noon.

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