

A policy of curtailment has been followed. Applications for licences are scrutinized to ascertain whether projects are essential, and whether the type of construction could be modified to conserve scarce materials. The granting of a licence does not confer on the licensee any priority rights to the delivery of equipment, materials or supplies to complete a project.

New and considerably extended powers were conferred upon the Controller of Construction in January, 1942. Under these new regulations, except under licence by the Controller, no person may start, or continue with, a project involving:—

- (1) Installation of equipment in any plant at a cost exceeding \$5,000.
- (2) Construction, repairs, additions or alterations to any plant at a cost exceeding \$5,000.*
- (3) Construction, repairs, additions, alterations or installation of equipment in any building other than a plant, where the total cost of the construction, including the cost of equipment, etc., exceeds \$5,000.†

The only exemption from this new order is where the equipment, plant or buildings are owned or financed by the Federal Government.

Control over production and use of construction materials, and construction material production facilities, is given to the Controller of Construction. As this may involve overlapping with the powers of other Controllers, it is provided that in such cases orders of the other Controller will govern.

Under the previous Orders in Council governing the control of construction, the jurisdiction of the Controller of Construction did not apply to one-, two- and three-family houses, agricultural, mining, logging, commercial fishing and railway buildings and structures, churches, public hospitals, educational institutions, or any buildings financed by or under the control of any provincial government; these categories are now brought within his control.

Subsection 2.—Construction for War Purposes

Construction related to Canada's war effort may be divided into the following groups:—

- (1) Building of defence projects for Air: (a) Aerodromes and training schools under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan; (b) Development of Canada's Home War Establishment for Air; (c) Royal Air Force schools in Canada.
- (2) Building of Army defence projects.
- (3) Construction of Naval projects, including harbour installations.
- (4) Construction of new industrial plants and plant extensions involving Government capital assistance.
- (5) Provision of necessary housing incidental to industrial expansion for war purposes.

Most contracts under groups (1) to (3), and some contracts under (4) are awarded by the Construction Branch of the Department of Munitions and Supply. For the calendar year 1941 the value of these contracts, 1,208 in number, amounted to \$97,538,743, as compared with 756 contracts aggregating \$85,154,764 in 1940.

* In the case of a plant, equipment to the value of \$5,000 may be installed without a permit in addition to a total value of \$5,000 so allowed for construction, repairs, additions or alterations.

† In the case of any building other than a plant, the maximum value of a project permitted without licence is \$5,000. In such case, the cost of construction, repairs, alterations, additions or installation of equipment, if forming part of one project, must be considered together as one amount in calculating the maximum value permitted without licence.