

In addition to providing for the needs of war industries, the Control, since early in 1942, has been able to allocate for civilian use some of the production of Government-owned chemical plants erected to meet war needs. On Nov. 1, 1942, the Chemicals Control, in order to meet war and essential civilian needs, took over the total production of all Canadian distilleries. The distillation of high-proof alcohol for potable purposes was discontinued at that date.

The production of industrial alcohol in Canada has been more than adequate for all essential domestic requirements and large quantities have been shipped to war industries in the United States.

The civilian use of such products as chlorine, coal tar, glycerine and plastic bases has been restricted in order to provide the additional requirements that the war effort has demanded.

At the instance of the Chemicals Controller, two Government plants were established in 1944 to produce penicillin in this country. The output was all allotted to the Armed Forces. Quantities for civilian use in Canada were brought in from the United States.

*Sulphuric Acid and Soda Ash.*—Existing facilities for making sulphuric acid were doubled in capacity and at the same time the Chemicals Controller arranged for the transportation of acid from British Columbia to Eastern Canada. In addition new methods were introduced in the explosives industry for the recovery of weak and impure sulphuric acid which had previously been allowed to run to waste. During 1943 the demand eased somewhat and Government-owned plants began diverting substantial quantities to fertilizer plants and to other civilian industries.

**Communications and Signals.**—The value of production of this type of equipment in 1940 was \$1,000,000; in 1943 it was \$136,000,000. There are approximately 4,500 different items in production by approximately 50 prime contractors and several hundred sub-contractors. Wireless sets and their components make up the bulk of production, but contracts cover the entire range of communication devices from telephones and telegraph supplies to the latest secret apparatus.

Twenty major types of radar equipment have been developed for a variety of applications, ranging from a type for anti-aircraft defence having 60,000 components and 270 radio tubes mounted in several large trucks to small compact airborne units for submarine detection at sea and target location on land.

Besides supplying the Armed Forces of this country, Canada is sending signals and communication equipment and supplies to the United Kingdom, the U.S.S.R., China, India, Africa, New Zealand and Australia; even the United States, despite its great production facilities, depends on Canada for large quantities of signal apparatus.

**The Iron and Steel Industry.**—The production of steel, the vital commodity of war, has been almost doubled in Canada since 1939. Although steel was so scarce after the Fall of France that the whole of the Canadian war program was threatened, at no time has the lack of it caused a single serious interruption of any phase of war production or service. At the close of 1943, with most large-scale construction projects completed, and offensive preparations nearly over, more than enough was available for war wastage.