

HOWE HAS AUTHORITY TO RUN EVERY FACTORY THROUGHOUT DOMINION

New Supply Minister Given
Greatest Powers in Do-
minion's History

TO SPEED OUTPUT

By H. R. ARMSTRONG

Ottawa, April 10.—As Canada's first minister of munitions and supply, Hon. C. D. Howe is today vested with wider powers than any previous government department head since the advent of responsible government in the Dominion.

The purpose of the new ministry is "to mobilize the resources of the nation for the production of munitions and essential supplies and to take such action as may be necessary therefor."

The minister will not only be in charge of making all war purchases, but has full power to control all production and supply of essential materials during duration of the conflict. If he deems it advisable he can take over any stocks of materials in Canada, can regulate distribution of all necessary supplies and can take possession of any factory or warehouse in the Dominion and appoint a controller to operate them in order to speed up or improve output during the war.

If necessary, the head of the munitions and supply department can cancel private contracts or arrangements of any producing firm in the dominion and use its facilities for production of essential materials or products. His author-

ity over production and distribution is not limited to defence projects or munitions of war. It extends to articles which in his opinion may be necessary "for the needs of the government or the community in the present war", or which are likely to be necessary.

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