

Air Ministry News ServiceAir Ministry Bulletin No.8180AIR MARSHAL BISHOP VISITS AIRCRAFT WORKS

"We are all part of the machinery of victory", Air Marshal "Billy" Bishop, V.C., of the Royal Canadian Air Force, who destroyed 72 enemy aircraft in the last war, told aircraft workers today when he addressed them briefly during a visit to a great plant. "Some of us may be only small cogs, but without us the machine will not run. Overalls and hard work are just as much a badge of honour, and of service, as His Majesty's or Uncle Sam's uniform and gun. Each of us depends on the other. It is a grand partnership. It is a trust to which we are all parties. Neither of us must ever let the other one down, and thank God, neither of us ever will."

The Air Marshal addressed the workers in one of the canteens, and was roundly applauded when he said:-

"I have long believed, and believe it now more than ever before, that the only road to victory is mastery of the air. If we all do our share - and only if we do our share - of the ultimate victory there can be no doubt. In 1918 we drove the pirate Hun out of the skies of Europe. We did it then, and we will do it again."

After expressing his thanks and congratulating the workers on the magnificent job which they are doing, the Air Marshal stressed the point that on the precision of their workmanship depended the lives of the air-crew who were flying in the aircraft. He realised the strain under which they worked, but pointed out that the Air Force depended on their efforts and sacrifice.

"I am not a prophet", the Air Marshal said, "I am not even a Bishop who deals in prophecy. I am only Billy Bishop, who knows there is a job to be done. I know we are going to win. I know it may take a long time and everything we have, but we must not weaken."

"I do not intend doing a goose-step in a concentration camp, and you are not going to join Adolph's one big union. You and we hold the keys of the future, and we of the Air Force know that your strong arms will open the door that leads to victory and peace and justice."

"My friends", he continued, "there is a new world order coming. In it the voice of the common man will determine the destiny of a freer and juster world. In it the voice of the superman will be stilled for ever."

"When victory comes, men will say, and they now do, kindly things about the armed forces. You can rest assured that the armed forces will say, and think, kindly things about the workers. My comrades and I will never forget."

The Canadian Ace was conducted on a tour of the plant by the President of the Company. During the journey through the plant he saw many instruments of war being turned out in unending stream.