

## THE BIG SWITCH.

Tackling the biggest conversion since Dunkirk, British industry has both feet planted on the road back. Six years of munition making are over; the nation's manpower turns over to production for peace. 45,000 factories receiving Board of Trade orders to revert to peace-time production, set their Works' Committees planning the biggest change-over of a lifetime. The now useless war machinery must in many cases be uprooted. A gigantic task in itself this part of the change-over involves immediate cataloguing of hundreds of thousands of machines. Whatever cannot be used on the spot must be taken out, sometimes for transfer to other factories.

Factory Drawing Offices are hard at it turning out blueprints of the necessary new machines and the new tools. Their manufacture, up and down the country, is rapidly proceeding. Much of the old machinery, useless for peace, is ruthlessly turned to scrap to provide the raw-material of the new.

(25 Molten) <sup>we</sup> Surveying the position ~~Parliament~~ examined a typical industrial area affected by the change-over. Factory No.1., famous for car manufacture before the war, equally noted for aero-engines in the last five years, clears the decks by sending away its now unwanted power units, and ~~clearing~~ <sup>preparing</sup> the necessary mass production floor space by knocking down the blast walls that protected it in the blitz. Already enough is done for a five-car a day output, but till the blast walls are down production - *target of 30* ~~will remain at that low figure. The target of thirty~~ cars a day is literally up against a brick wall, and so scarce is building labour, that at the present rate reconversion will take years.

~~Factory No. 2 Custard Makers, shut down in war no labour~~

yet available.

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Factory Two. Castrol makers still shut down.

No. 3, <sup>still</sup> commandeered by the military, ~~who don't seem to know~~ there's a war off.

No. 4. Also compulsorily closed down. Still used as an NFS store.

No. 5. Gear cutting specialists. These people will be kept busy by converting machines for other factories. They have already developed an excellent pre-fabricated house as a side line, and as floor space is cleared of war contracts, pre-fabricated flooring goes into full production. Everything satisfactory here?

No. 6 manufactures bus bodies. ~~Manufacturing~~

Floor-space is already cleared for new assembly-lines, but for the possible output of nine per day <sup>is n. reached.</sup> ~~labour is not sufficient~~ / What's holding you up?

No. 7. Wartime production ending. This firm is well on its way towards reaching peacetime <sup>output</sup> ~~production~~ of vacuum cleaners.

Throughout industrial Great Britain labour shortage is the bottleneck. It is of paramount importance that the great basic industries get back as quickly as possible to normal. We cannot go on being short of coal if industry is to revive. Cotton too must recruit labour on the big scale. But already Britain is delivering the goods. The exports by which we purchase our daily bread daily flow faster.

Faster demob. is industry's crying need; uniforms must be changed for overalls. Three million out by next June is the Government's promise. ~~The men who saved us from national extinction are wanted on the~~

~~new front.~~  
TOMMY

We shall pull through when, in his millions,  
~~him~~ comes marching home.