

MAMMOTH WAR CONTRACT IN PROSPECT

Thanks to the energy and enterprise of some of Pembroke's most aggressive business men, there is in prospect for Pembroke at the present time a mammoth war order which will be one of the largest yet secured in any of the towns of Ontario. It will involve the installation here of a new shell-making plant at a cost of about \$125,000 and will extend over a period of over two years—completion being called for on Dec. 31st, 1917.

The order will be for 500,000 shells, and will amount to nearly \$2,500,000, while the cases for the shells will also be made here. Plans are not yet sufficiently far advanced to give publicity to all the details of the big undertaking, but should all the arrangements be carried through successfully, as present prospects seem to promise, it will be the biggest thing that has come Pembroke's way in many a day and will help handsomely in tiding the town over the period of industrial depression due to the war.

From 40 to 50 men would be employed at the outset, the number being increased to 200 or more highly-paid mechanics during the first six months as machinery is installed, and should everything move along successfully there is a possibility that during the year the contract might be increased to 1,000,000 shells.

The gentlemen behind the venture are now busy making financial arrangements, which it is hoped will be satisfactorily completed within the next few days, and we will probably be able to make a definite announcement regarding the whole matter next week. At present we are not at liberty to give information regarding the source of the order, but all these things will come out in due time, and in the meantime Pembroke people will be mainly interested in seeing the order safely landed, thus ensuring a big stimulant to local industrial activity for the next two and a half years or longer.