

My honourable friend opposite thinks that in the matter of taxation we are not yet prepared for the return to peacetime industry. It can be readily understood that one of our great problems in the war period has been how best to finance Canada's war effort. I believe that all who have studied finance and taxation in other countries at war are agreed that Canada has done very well. We have paid for about fifty per cent of our actual war expenditures, and the balance has been loaned by the people. It cannot be denied that Canada stands to-day in a very strong position for a nation which has gone through five and a half years of war. A day or two ago Mr. Graham Towers, the Governor of the Bank of Canada, issued a statement from which it can be seen by anyone who reads it that we have done well, not only in the matter of taxation but also in our borrowings, and by financing within Canada the full burden of our war effort.

My honourable friend made some reference to industry and trade. It is only natural that we should have some discussion on this. He will recall that during the last session of Parliament the Government took steps to assist exporters. There has been set up a financial organization that will materially aid business concerns which undertake to dispose of their goods in countries where at present buyers are probably unable to pay cash. A great opportunity has been given to industry in this way. Furthermore, the Government has been active in extending Canada's representation in foreign countries, and to-day this country has able men, either as ambassadors or ministers plenipotentiary, in many parts of the world. These men are in a position to keep the Government advised as to opportunities for trade, and I have no doubt that the information thus obtained is one of the services made available to Canadian exporters. We also have our trade commissioners. I believe that during the war this branch of our foreign service has not been extended, except to some South American countries. The European countries have of course been "blackened" out and there has been no opportunity for development of trade with them.

If the war should come to an end within a few weeks the Allied nations would be faced with a great problem in providing necessities for the people of the countries that have been overrun. Unless everything possible is done to render relief in those countries serious disturbances may develop, and what is worse, many people will probably starve to death. I

am sure we are all conversant with this fact and know that our people are desirous of doing their share towards providing relief. Fortunately we have in the Allied nations a great organization for making relief effective. If ever there was in the world an organization capable of relieving the needs of stricken countries it is the one that exists among the Allied powers to-day.

I do not intend to speak to-night on the San Francisco conference, but I hope to have an opportunity to-morrow of moving a resolution dealing with the matter. As my honourable friend has said, it undoubtedly will be the desire of all members of this Parliament and of all the people of Canada to support to the utmost of their power an organization that will give an assurance of peace and of better conditions for all the nations of the world.

As to supply, I feel there will not be occasion for us to debate that in this Chamber. The Government simply intends to ask for certain sums of money to provide for financial needs from the 31st of March until the assembling of a new Parliament. There are only two matters to be dealt with at this session. One is the request for concurrence in the Government's action in accepting the invitation to attend the San Francisco conference, and the other is the request to provide funds to carry on the war during the interval between the end of the fiscal year and the assembling of the next Parliament. I am sure that these two matters will be dealt with expeditiously by the members of both Houses, and that the nineteenth Parliament will not be concluded by a political session. After all, there will be plenty of opportunity on the hustings to talk politics.

I have no more to say. It is hoped that if other honourable members desire to speak—and the field is one in which many speeches could be made—they will proceed some time this week or next week. It is difficult to decide when the Senate should adjourn, but to-morrow we may have information that will enable my honourable friend opposite (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) and me to arrive at an agreement with regard to our work for the remainder of the session, and to make proposals that will best serve the interests of the Senate.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Howard, the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.