

ister thought proper to carry on the road in his own county. If the Prime Minister were here I would tell him the story of an old Indian who used to profit by selling the heads of bears in Pictou, Halifax and Guysborough counties. There is a law on the statute book that the person who brings in the muzzle, or nose, of a bear he will get \$20. This old Indian, after he had shown a bear's nose in Pictou and collected on it, would go on the same errand into Halifax and then into Guysborough. On one occasion he came to Halifax county, but the officer to whom he applied felt that this was a Halifax bear. So he asked the Indian: "Are you sure that this bear came from within the boundaries of Halifax county?" And the answer was: "What does a bear know about county lines?" The bear knew nothing about county lines, but the Premier cannot be so accused. He is fully aware where the boundary lines of Halifax are, and he takes care to spend the money there, to the exclusion of other parts of the province. But I hope the day is not far distant when we shall be again in a position not only to complete our railway in Halifax, but also to build our roads in Guysborough and Victoria, as well as attend to the other public matters now so badly neglected by those who are governing this country. I submit to the Minister of Finance that it was not fair to the people I represent to have every dollar voted for them wiped clean off the slate, leaving unattended all those crying needs to which attention has been called, the money being spent elsewhere. It is sad to think that of these \$39,000,000 that were handed over we have not a dollar to-day. The Minister of Finance knows where it went, of course, but it is beyond his reach; he cannot bring it back to help him now in the distressed circumstances in which he finds himself. There are some extravagances to which attention should be given. But the conduct of the Government has been arraigned in such a striking way by the junior member for Halifax (Mr. A. K. Maclean) that we may all very well sit back and say nothing further on the subject. The charges he made against the Government have not been answered; there has not been an attempt to answer these charges, which show that there is extravagance on every side and incapacity in every shape.

There are certain direct complaints which came to me about some of the taxes. Particularly I would call attention to the complaints of the men who are in the drug

business in my own constituency, including those of William Hines, Frank L. Fry, P. L. Smith and A. D. Stevenson, some of the leading druggists in my own town, who wire and write me asking that I should protest to the Prime Minister, and especially to the Minister of Finance, against the heavy exactions imposed upon them as druggists. I hope the minister will give careful consideration to these matters, and will relieve as far as possible the heavy burdens thrown upon men who are doing business as these druggists are.

I wish to pay this tribute to the Minister of Finance: he excels all others in his capacity for prodigal expenditure and prodigal extravagance and in his lack of capacity as the watch-dog of the Canadian treasury. Perhaps he has been too good-hearted, and has allowed others to deceive him into the belief that he should dash away and spend the money, as he was advised by the hon. member for Queens, P.E.I. (Mr. Nicholson). Hon. gentlemen opposite have dashed away and spent the money, and now they are fast dashing themselves to pieces on the rocks.

It is not so many months since the right hon. Prime Minister told us that it would take the Canadian people twenty-five or fifty years to build anything in the shape of a navy that would be worth mentioning or worthy of the name. Be that as it may, I can assure the right hon. Prime Minister that in less than three years he and his Government have succeeded in raising and developing a prodigal son who flocks by himself without rival or peer in ancient or modern history.

We pride ourselves on having made rapid strides along every line of development. We look down from our lofty eminence on the crude civilization of other days. But if there is one thing more than another in which within the last three years we have outstripped and outclassed ourselves and all former ages, it is in our reckless prodigality of public expenditure. Try if you can, Sir, to institute a comparison between the amateur performance of the prodigal son of Babylonian days and the fully equipped, developed and practised prodigal of the Tory Government. When you do so, the Babylonian product pales into a negligible nonentity. We are taught to remember the Babylonian artist as a miserable object in rags and tatters, unworthy of our admiration, sympathy or respect, but the Borden prodigal is the Chesterfield of his time, bask-