

been raised in the years previous to the war. But the economy of this Government only shows up when compared with their tremendously extravagant expenditure during the two or three years prior to the war. Compare their expenditure to-day with the really economical expenditures of the late Government—expenditures which the hon. member for Montreal, St. Antoine, in those days criticised as being extravagant in the extreme, and it becomes manifest that the so-called economy of to-day is really extravagance.

Let us see how these figures compare? If I heard my hon. friend the Minister of Finance aright when he was beginning the Budget speech, I think he made the statement that the expenditure on ordinary account during the past year was \$143,000,000. My hon. friend from Montreal, St. Antoine (Sir Herbert Ames) says that is very economical, but the last year that the Liberals were in power—1910-1911—the expenditure for the same account was under \$80,000,000. When you compare the figures of last year with those of five years ago, the figures of last year do not look economical at all; they are very extravagant.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Does the hon. gentleman say that what is \$143,000,000 to-day was \$80,000,000 five years ago?

Mr. TURRIF: The expenditure on ordinary account was under \$80,000,000 during the last full year the Liberals were in power, and I understood the Minister of Finance to say that the expenditure on ordinary account last year was \$143,000,000. Of course, there is some deduction to be made for the extra amount of interest on the debt and pensions, but it does not begin to keep the expenditure of to-day anything near what it was in 1910-11. The only way you can show any economy at all is by showing that you are not quite as extravagant in your expenditure as you were two years before the war. But, in 1910-11 the country was prosperous, the revenue was buoyant, and the expenditures were very much lower than they are to-day. Here we are almost three years engaged in this war, we are piling up a war debt of \$1,000,000 a day, as my hon. friend told us this afternoon, and instead of economising we are going on in the most extravagant way spending fifty per cent more than was expended five years ago. I think nobody will say that there are many more people in Canada to-day than there were five years ago. It is time that there should be

[Mr. Turriff.]

economy practised. We are all hoping that the war will end this year, but there is nothing definite to show that it will end this year. It is quite possible that it will go on for a year and a half, and if it does, look at the debt we will have piled up at the rate of \$1,000,000 a day; and it keeps on increasing. The longer we are engaged in the war the more the war costs in Canada per day. When this war is over, when 300,000 or 400,000 Canadians come back from the front, and, being turned out of employment, have to go out and find work wherever they may be able to find it, and when 300,000 or 400,000 men and women who are working in munition factories are turned out of work, see what it means. For two or three years after the war the country will be coming through an equilibrium again, and during that time the factories that are making munitions will have to find a new outlet for their product. The revenue will fall off, our imports will decline, prices of farm produce will go down, exports will decrease, there will not be the same amount of revenue coming into the Dominion, and if my hon. friend should be Minister of Finance then he will not have the revenue of \$230,000,000 that he has now. He will have a much smaller revenue, and in the meantime our debt will be doubled up as compared with what it is to-day. How are we going to manage the affairs of this country, how are we going to take care of our ordinary expenditure, of the interest on our debt, of our pension fund, of our sinking fund, if we do not meet the situation by economy? This is the time to begin practising economy and not wait until hard times are upon us. We should practise economy now that the revenues are buoyant, when the money is coming in as never before, and when everybody in business is making money out of borrowed money. We are not paying anything practically on account of the cost of the war. As my hon. friend from Halifax (Mr. Maclean) pointed out to-day, since this Government came into power there have been more deficits than would represent the amount that we have paid on account of the war. We are going on borrowed money, but later on we will have to meet the interest on that money. In the meantime, my hon. friends, instead of practising economy, are going on full sail ahead and spending 50 per cent more than their expenditure a few years ago. Here is a statement showing the increase in the cost of running the different