

fallen off very considerably. This being the third year that this Government has been responsible for the policy of the country, their figures show that their policy is tending towards increasing the export trade of the country and decreasing the imports. The whole speech of the Finance Minister, when he was talking on his Budget arrangements, was to the effect that he had to find a large amount of revenue for the purpose of carrying on the business of the country, and because his revenue was falling off, he had to largely increase the duties on many articles; but if the import trade of the country was falling before the tariff was raised, as it has been this session, we must expect to see the import trade of the country decrease considerably when we get the returns for the present year, and the consequence of that will be, the Finance Minister will find that, instead of his revenue increasing as he hoped it would, his figures will fall considerably short of what he has led the country to expect. The development and progress of this country is very largely concerned with the question of immigration. This country is one of enormous territory, but very small population compared with the tremendous area we have to deal with, and it should be the object and aim of every Government, as much as possible, to bring immigrants here. But we find at the present time that immigration into Canada is falling off very considerably. Of course the hon. gentleman may say that this is very largely due to the present condition of affairs throughout the world, and possibly we should not be too hard on the Government if the immigration into this country falls very considerably this year; but at the same time it should be pointed out to the Government that their most determined efforts should be put forth in order to increase the immigration into Canada. The immigration returns show that 354,257 immigrants came into Canada in 1911-12 and 384,878 immigrants in the year 1913-14. In 1914 there were 168,859 immigrants. That will give hon. gentlemen some idea of the extent to which the immigration into Canada has decreased in the last period for which we were able to get returns. For the year 1915-16 it has been estimated that the immigration will not amount to more than 50,000 to 75,000 people. Hon. gentlemen have only to think for a few minutes to realize what that means to this country. Consider the amount of money that every immigrant necessarily brings into the country, the amount of work that the country obtains from every

man, woman and child that comes here for the purpose of making a home in Canada. It means that they develop the resources of the country and provide work for others as well as for themselves. Therefore, I say that the Government should most certainly do all that they can to stop this decrease of immigration into Canada and find some way of turning the tide and bringing it back to what it was in the year 1914. I have put these figures before the House and before the country in order that people may have an opportunity of studying them, of considering them for themselves and of realizing the direction in which this country is moving at the present time. The whole condition of things is very serious, because these figures I have given to the House deal with only the ordinary business of the country. We have to add to those the expense that the country is under at the present time on account of the part we are taking in the terrible war which is raging in Europe. The expense in connection with that war is not in any way included in the figures which I have given; and when those are added to the figures that I have already submitted, it shows a very tremendous financial burden placed on this country, but if the people realize the situation and really look seriously into the matter, I do not think there is any doubt that Canada will eventually come through successfully.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—It is not my intention to follow my hon. friend in the incursions which he has made into the realms of trade, of commerce, of finance and expenditure, but I should like to say that the Supply Bill which is before us on the present occasion is rather an exceptional one. We have been passing through extraordinary conditions involving expenditure which, under ordinary conditions, would not have occurred. I have no intention of undertaking anything like a survey of the expenditures which the Government has been compelled to make, except to point out some of the extraordinary obligations with which we have been faced, and which we have been called upon to meet, and which necessarily have very greatly added to the present Supply Bill. In looking through this Bill, I find in about seven or eight items appropriations amounting to \$43,000,000 which in former Supply Bills we would not have been called upon to provide. Take, for instance, the matter of seed grain, for which there is an appropriation of \$10,500,000. We have been called upon to make an extraordinary