

WAYS AND MEANS—THE BUDGET.

Consideration of the proposed motion of Hon. W. T. White (Minister of Finance) for Committee of Ways and Means, resumed from February 11, 352.

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Past and current estimates compared, 578-82. The Government now in power has done its full duty in this crisis, 583.

The Budget of the Minister of Finance will stand for all time to come as a masterful, reasonable, sane, safe, sound business proposition, 584.

The flax industry referred to, 585.

Bellemare, A. (Maskinonge)—809.

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Blain, Richard (Peel)—794.

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Criticises Mr. Armstrong's speech, 586-8. New taxation and the banks referred to, 589.

Kyte, G. W. (Richmond N.S.)—449.

It has been pointed out by hon. gentlemen who have preceded me in this debate, and it has been admitted by the Minister of Finance himself, that the war is not responsible for the conditions that prevail at the present time, 450.

I shall endeavour to point out one or two respects in which, I think, the policy of the Government, if not absolutely the cause of the existing condition of affairs, has tended to very greatly aggravate that condition, 457.

Civil Service discussed, 452-3. Trade, tariff and taxes discussed, 454-8.

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Mr. Maclean's speech criticised, 367-8.

I desire to say a word about the Budget. I believe that this Budget has been received with greater satisfaction than any Budget which has ever preceded it in the history of this country, 369. The proposed taxation falls upon financial institutions and those who are able to bear the taxes, 370.

The Government have presented a determined front to every phase of the war situation which has appeared, 371.

Quotations with regard to American war tax, 373.

Our friends are still fearful of the bogey of protection. They did nothing to reduce the tariff when they had the power to do so, 375.

Railway subsidies and net debt discussed, 375-77.

Maclean, A. K. (Halifax)—352.

A few words indeed will suffice to express my views regarding the war supply, which has been outlined in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister, and by resolution, 352.

Consideration of ordinary revenue and expenditure discussed, 353-62.

I do not think there ought to be any special duties or stamp taxes upon anything, 263.

Again, is there any justification of any kind for the indiscriminate application of a 7½ per cent general tariff and 5 per cent preferential tariff on articles formerly on the free list? Tariff increases were unnecessary, 364-6.

MacNutt, Thomas (Saltcoats)—789.

Thinks Budget should be called Proposed Deficit taxation, 790. Believes prices will increase because of the war, 791. British preference and other matters dealt with, 793-4.

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Nesbitt, E. W. (Oxford North)—593.

Position of finances examined and discussed, 594-6. Expenditures which might be cut down referred to, 597-9.

Oliver, Hon. Frank (Edmonton)—379.

I do not admit that the Budget presented by the Minister of Finance is a Budget that is adapted or adequate to the extraordinary circumstances which now have to be faced, 379. The Government has a duty besides that of collecting taxes and spending money, 380. We maintain that it is a fact that undue increase of tariff will not give revenue, and the direct taxation features of the Budget are an absolute admission of that contention, 381. The principle of direct taxation is