

East. Coming up on the train only the other day, a manufacturer from Amherst told me that he was endeavouring to build up the manufacture of a tractor, which he said he was taking out to the western country, where he believed he would be successful in placing it on the market. We want an interchange of products and goodwill between the East and the West. We have statesmen who will be able to deal with any difficulty that might cause division between us, and who will be able to bring us together and make us what we can be—a great country, united from shore to shore.

My honourable friend referred to the question of taxation. I do not want to be understood as speaking of the remarks of the honourable gentleman in a critical sense, because I appreciate very highly the research that he made, and the illuminating address that he delivered. The men who are leading this agrarian movement in the various provinces deal very lightly with the important question of the finances of the country. With a wave of the hand they would sweep away the \$160,000,000 of customs duties which come into the treasury of Canada; and, with another wave of the hand, they say, "We can easily raise the money by income tax, or a tax on land," or by some other negligible method. In my judgment, those gentlemen, before expecting their arguments to prevail in this country, should be prepared to come down to concrete facts, and to show the people of this country how, if they were placed in the responsible positions of Government, they would provide the money that now comes from the customs duty. What they have done is all very easy. I could go abroad, any honourable member could go abroad, and stand on platforms, as these gentlemen have done, and make the pronouncement they have made. But I venture to say that if these gentlemen were in responsible positions, facing the problems of government, and had to find revenue, they would not talk so glibly about laying on taxes here and there. I have never observed these gentlemen when talking about direct taxation, taking into account the very important fact that in this Dominion we have nine provinces, and that every one of them, as well as the municipalities, cities, and towns in them, already impose a very heavy direct tax. In the province from which I come, in every town and in every city, there is a pretty high rate of personal taxation. There is taxation upon the real and personal property of the people; taxation upon the household furniture; taxation upon the stocks of goods which the mer-

chants have; and in the municipalities, cities and towns, there is in addition a direct income tax, sometimes running, as it does in my own town, as high as 3 per cent. These gentlemen seem to overlook the fact that these provinces must be maintained and that practically the only source of revenue which many of them have is direct taxation, taxation upon land, personal taxes and income tax—and, in all probability these weighty loads upon the citizens will grow unless the Federal Government dips into the treasury and gives more subsidies, which it is not very likely to do in the near future. So, when any gentleman talks about imposing a heavier federal income tax and a tax upon land, it is his duty to consider the load now laid upon the shoulders of the people by the various Provincial Governments and municipalities. Inasmuch as I did not intend to take part in this debate, I have not had time to look into conditions in the other provinces. But I have in my possession a memorandum of what we pay in Nova Scotia, and as I think the facts contained in it are somewhat illuminating on this side of the subject, I am going to read it to the House. The banks in Nova Scotia are taxed from \$250 to \$1,000 each, plus \$50 to \$100 on each branch. Loan and trust companies, telegraph, telephone, gas, electric, and express companies are taxed from \$250 to \$350. Insurance companies are taxed one per cent of their gross premiums. Theatres are taxed. Insurance agents have to take out licenses and pay a yearly tax. Then, in cities and towns, we have a highway tax of one-tenth of one per cent; and in the municipalities 40 cents on \$100. Persons holding land to the extent of 500 acres or over pay one per cent. Probate fees, registry of deeds fees, prothonotaries and other official fees have been increased 50 per cent since the war. Out of the total the Provincial Government takes one-third. The succession duties have been increased. We have upon the statute books of Nova Scotia an Income Tax Act which may be brought into operation at any moment. Under that Act upon incomes of between \$1,000 and \$3,000 the rate will vary from one-half of one per cent to one per cent. On top of that there will be a supertax on incomes of \$6,000 and over of from one-half of one per cent to 12½ per cent. Above that again, on incomes of \$6,000 and over, there is a surtax of from 1¼ per cent to 8½ per cent. It will be seen that with these taxes and the taxes that I have already referred to,