

to remove it if present policies are pursued. According to the government records this country is at the present time \$52,000,000 behind where it was at this time a year ago, and when the railway returns come in, that sum is bound to be increased. The actual deficit last year was about \$38,000,000. Where are we to land at the end of 1924-25? Are we supposed to presume that sound policies are being pursued which result in this culmination? Is all this satisfactory to the people in Canada? Is this progress comparable with the position disclosed by our neighbours to the south, who are situated much as we are and whose debt after the war and three years after the war was virtually the same proportionately as our own? It is entirely out of the question to appeal to this government to surrender the sweets of power; these are dearer to them than life. But I hope it is not out of the question to ask them, in the sight of conditions which prevail to-day, taking into account and giving every weight to those few which present any favourable aspect at all, to admit their error, reverse their policy, and give Canada a chance.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in joining with my right hon. friend in congratulating the mover and the seconder of the Address. The hon. member (Sir Eugene Fiset) who moved the Address is anything but a stranger to this city, though he now comes to parliament for the first time. For many years his distinguished record in the public service has been well known, not only throughout this country, but in all parts of the British Empire. During the South African war he rendered gallant service in South Africa, and through the whole of the late war he rendered as important service as any administrative officer in this country could have rendered the empire at that time. We are, indeed, proud to welcome him to this parliament for his known ability in an executive and administrative capacity; after hearing him this afternoon I feel sure that welcome will be extended not less on the score of his qualities as a parliamentarian and his admirable gift for public speaking. It is, I am sure, a source of pride and pleasure to the hon. member to realize that he succeeds in this parliament his distinguished father who, for many years, represented here the constituency which the hon. member to-day represents and was also for many years a member of the Senate of Canada.

May I, in making mention of this fact, draw the attention of the House to the circumstance that of the five new members

whom we had the privilege of introducing on the day of the opening, and who sit on this side of the House, no less than three succeed their respective fathers to representation in this House of their respective constituencies. The hon. member for Northumberland, N.B. (Mr. Snowball), bears a name which is familiar to all who have followed the public life of Canada. His father was not only an hon. member of this House but was also later a member of the Senate and subsequently lieutenant governor of the province of New Brunswick. The hon. member for Temiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) comes also of a family whose name is well known in our political history, his father having also represented the present member's constituency with great distinction. Of the two other members who were introduced on the day of the opening, I think I can say that in the short time they have been before the public their names have become almost household words in the Dominion. The hon. member for St. Antoine (Mr. Hushion) has not been long in this House, but I venture to say that from one end of the country to the other the campaign which he waged so successfully in the city of Montreal during the recess is as well known as any recent political event.

May I, too, congratulate most heartily the seconder of the address, the hon. member who now represents in this House the constituency of West Hastings (Mr. Hanna)? I am sure my right hon. friend will agree with me that the constituency of West Hastings is to-day better known throughout Canada than it ever was before. Hon. gentlemen will recollect that my right hon. friend himself opened the constituency last session in order to test public confidence in the present administration. In his courageous way, he chose a constituency that from the days of confederation had been the most strongly Tory of any in Ontario. He chose a constituency in which he thought it would be impossible for anyone other than an opponent of the government to be returned. He took a very active part in the fight, he brought forward the policies he is advocating in the most forcible way, and after the election had been fought his candidate was defeated by an overwhelming majority by the new member for the constituency. The hon. member for West Hastings will long be remembered by that well merited victory. By his speech in the House this afternoon, he has added laurels to those already won.

My right hon. friend is accustomed to say that the government of the day does not