The Budget-Mr. Mackenzie King

Budget of	Fiscal year	Total generally controllable expenditure	Total generally uncontroll- able expenditure	Grand total disburse- ments
1922 1923	1921–22 1922–23 1923–24	\$ 156,559,119 143,069,685 140,662,864	\$ 307,093,317 291,382,656 229,530,787	\$ 463,652,436 434,452,341 370,213,651

There is a difference of sixty-four million in disbursements between 1924 and 1923. If my right hon, friend wants to know where we get our surplus, there it is, from the economies we have practised. What does that show with respect to the estimate of the grand total disbursement per head of the estimated population of the country? It shows the total disbursements per head of population as follows:

										Grand total disbursement per head of population		
	1922										\$51 77	
	1923										47 50	
	1924										39 66	

In other words, the disbursements per head of the population in 1924 were seven-ninths of those in 1922. For every nine dollars which my hon. friends opposite were spending when they left office, this government is now spending seven dollars. We have been able to reduce expenditure by that ratio.

What about the revenues of the country? They also contain something which reflects the improved condition of the country. Whilst the disbursements have shown a marked progressive decrease, the revenues on the other hand have shown an equally marked progressive increase. The figures are as follows:

Budget of	Fiscal Year	Total Revenue Receipts
1922	1921-22	\$381,952,387
1923	1922-23	394,614,900
1924	1923-24	396,000,000

This table shows a steady increase each year since the government has taken office.

I take next the external trade of the country. My hon. friend said a few moments ago that everyone was leaving the country, not the people only but also the trade, that business was suffering, and that the country was in a bad way indeed. Here are the figures in regard to the external trade of the country, they disclose a vast improvement in the total volume of trade and particularly in the favourable balance:

Budget of	Fiscal year	Imports for home consumption	Total of a second secon	Excess of imports over exports	Excess of exports over imports
		\$	\$	\$	\$
1922 1923	1921–22 1922–23 1923–24	747,804,332 802,465,043 893,335,491			6,122,677 142,830,794 165,217,806

*1920-21: Excess of imports over exports-\$29,730,763.

My hon. friend says the business concerns of the country have been closing down since the government came into office, that the changes in the tariff have affected business considerably. The figures I have quoted show that this is not the case. Had I taken the fiscal year 1920-21, when my right hon. friend was in office, hon. members would have seen that there was no excess of exports over imports that year; but an excess of imports over exports of \$29,730,763.

Mr. MEIGHEN: About two years before it was five hundred million. Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There are the figures as they relate to the period of time this government has been in office, and as they are recorded in the three successive budgets which have been brought down. Now then, what was the other outstanding feature? It is that this year there is a reduction in taxation of twenty-four million dollars. There you have reflected the condition of Canada. You have a surplus in the matter of revenues over expenditures, you have this great reduction in the total expenditures of the country, you have this vast increase in the total export trade of the country, and you have at last a