

to pay its own taxes, but it would like to have mining taxation placed upon a sound basis. It would ask also that a reduction in taxation should be undertaken as soon as possible, because at the present time it is impossible for mining to carry on. There is a high labour cost in the mining industry; about sixty per cent of the cost of mining is accounted for by labour. One man employed underground necessitates the employment of fourteen others, so that you see what happens.

I have certain suggestions to make. First, the geological survey branch of the Department of Mines and Resources should be increased many fold. I went out with the surveyors in our district, and I was amazed to see what is done there.

Second, the present cooperation with provincial departments of mines should be increased, especially in connection with the construction of mining roads. When roads are built in to mines, it has always developed that more mines have been discovered. Then those roads will be available for lumbering operations, and also will be a great attraction for tourists.

Third, plans should be made for opening up out-of-the-way areas, through the use of aircraft. Many of our young men are pilots, and if this were done they would have work when they come home.

Fourth, revision of the present tax concessions, pending their complete removal, should be undertaken. Most of the mining companies have built up huge liquid reserves. I do not think this is necessary. I would say that if the mining companies would declare dividends of from fifteen per cent to thirty per cent instead of from five per cent to ten per cent, and have the shareholders pay the taxes, instead of the companies, it would be far better.

The present income tax legislation allows generous deductions in respect of money invested or speculated in connection with exploration of new minerals. This concession should be extended to all minerals.

I know the dominion government does not do much in connection with education, but I have one or two suggestions to make along this line. We should have one history for all Canada. That should be a history which would suit Quebec and suit Ontario, and which would satisfy the provinces in the east and in the west. It should set out both the good things and the weak things about Canada. I believe this is coming.

I know there are many schools in which radios are found. However, I know, too, that there are a great many schools in which there are no radios, and many homes to which no

[Mr. McIvor.]

local papers are delivered. I would suggest that these little red schoolhouses, away from the larger centres, should have their radios, even if they are only battery sets.

I would suggest to the Minister of Finance that parents of nurses in training should receive tax exemptions for those girls. I know—not "I think"—that a girl who is taking a course in nursing will cost her parents more than she cost before going to public school. Surely this is necessary, and especially at the present time when nurses are so greatly needed. This tax exemption would help a great deal.

The bright students from those little red schoolhouses away out yonder should be encouraged. They should receive special treatment, and be given an opportunity of earning their way, so that they can take more advanced education.

I now come to farming. I am grateful to the responsible parties for establishing floor prices in respect of so many farm products. The farmer must pay the price quoted him by the storekeeper or the implement agent, and it is just as necessary that the farmer be in a position to tell the business man in the city what he must pay for pork and beef. This is a fine step in the right direction.

At this point I should like to give a picture of farming in that section of Ontario from which I come. Some farmers from Ontario may have the impression that there is no farming carried on at the head of the lakes. May I tell them that we have farmers in that district who are second to none in Ontario. A young man on a farm seventeen miles outside Fort William, near Murillo, Geo. Elchuk took first prize for potatoes for all Canada, and ten other prizes, in competition with both eastern and western Canada. May I state further that Fred Stewardson of Slate river district raised 140 bushels of Ajax oats per acre. I doubt if one would find many farms in Ontario which would give that yield. Two hundred and twenty-five bushels of potatoes per half acre are 450 bushels per acre. That is a huge crop, especially when it is from a place which some believe consists only of rock, scrub, logs and timber. And yet we have farms and farmers that are doing those things.

In our district we have the potato king. This man, Mr. J. R. Hutchison, is noted for the potatoes he raises, and for the market price they demand. We have, too, the corn king, a gentleman named George Sovereign. One could go into his field and see corn which would delight the eye of any farmer from Ontario, and he would wonder how Mr. Sovereign does it?

Then I have the picture of a young man who went into farming about four years ago.