

perity we already have in Canada and how to increase it, and the second is how to increase our population in order that among other things we may lighten the burden of taxation throughout this Dominion. We on this side of the house rejoice that there has been a certain amount of increased prosperity in Canada. With our vast country, our great natural resources and our industrious people this was inevitable, but I want to point out that this increase in prosperity is due to no action on the part of the present government and, as a matter of fact, has come to Canada in spite of the acts of this government. I also point out that there is nothing in the present budget calculated to induce greater prosperity in Canada at the present time. The chief causes of the increased prosperity can be summed up under four heads: In the first place we have had three years of bountiful crops, thanks to Providence, and those crops have been sold by the farmers at prices much greater than existed in pre-war days. In the industry of animal husbandry a similar increase has also occurred, and good prices have been obtained. Consequently the farmers of Canada to-day, no matter in what province they may reside, are in a better position, relatively speaking, than they have been for some time.

The second great industry in Canada which has been prosperous is the mining industry. Here again we find the federal government is exercising no control or very little. The mining industry in Ontario, the province from which I come, is going ahead by leaps and bounds, largely on account of the measures taken by the provincial government. That government sent its Minister of Mines over to the old country on a very successful visit to interest British capital in the mines of the province. The mines of Quebec, I believe, are in a similar condition; and in almost every province of Canada the mining industry is increasing with the result that towns are springing up everywhere, and other industries are developing in connection therewith. The same thing may be said of the pulp industry, which is one of our largest industries. This is almost entirely under the control of the provincial government and is not subject to the whim or the control of the present government at Ottawa.

We have a fourth industry to which I should like to call attention for a few minutes, one that is gaining in importance every day in Canada—I refer to the tourist traffic. During the last few years it has grown at a wonderful rate, until it is estimated that last year the money left by tourists in this Dominion represented a total of upwards of \$200,000,000.

The traffic has been largely brought about by the construction of good roads in the various provinces. The movement for good roads originated, really, through a grant from the federal Conservative government for improved highways, and the movement for good roads has grown throughout the Dominion to such an extent that almost every Canadian province is spending a large part of its revenue in connection with improved road systems. The result is that the tourist business is increasing every year and will continue to increase, notwithstanding the fact that nothing at all is being done by this government to advertise Canada in that way. A few years ago, I believe, some advertisements were sent out by the Immigration department but these have been discontinued largely so far as I know.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I am afraid my hon. friend has not been reading the press.

Mr. ARTHURS: There are a few pages of advertising published here and there, but very few.

Mr. FORKE: A lot of money has been spent on advertising.

Mr. ARTHURS: I have no desire to preach blue ruin or anything of that nature, but I should like to point out that a good deal of the prosperity which has been advertised so freely by hon. gentlemen opposite is non-existent. We have reports showing that our banks are prosperous, and we believe it to be the case, but what consolation is that to the man who is out of a job, the man who has lost his occupation in some factory in this country? The immense amount of life insurance in force has also been cited. May I point out to the house and to the country that the great part of this life insurance is in the nature of investments by wealthy men, men who are anxious to avoid paying income tax and to provide that when they die their estates shall not be subject to taxation either.

The point that we are interested in mostly is this: Are conditions better in the country and in our small towns since the advent of this government, or are they worse? There can be no question but that in almost every town in this country the conditions are worse than they were four or five years ago. Our young men are leaving for the United States, hundreds have already gone, and no matter what the government may say these men are remaining in the country to the south, they are not returning. I think the member for Vancouver-Burrard (Mr. Clark) gave the house some figures on this subject from an American report yesterday. I should like to