

WAYS AND MEANS—THE BUDGET—*Con.*

and amongst some of the nations included in the alliance that, since we are now virtually selling our bonds on the joint credit of the Allies, some method must be devised to have commercial treaties between the Allies so that they can all work together to one end, 992. A short sketch of the operations of the Canadian divisions at the front given, 993-1001. Reference made to his own conduct at the front, 1001-02. The nation that has the greatest number of men, the largest number of guns, and the greatest amount of equipment at the front, is the nation that is going to win this war, 1003-06.

*Davidson, A. L.* (Annapolis)—1088.

Criticises Mr. Verville's attitude towards labour, and the attitude of the opposition towards the Budget, 1088. Considers Budget the most encouraging and courageous ever brought before Parliament, 1089-90. The C.P.R., potatoes, apple duty and other matters discussed, 1091-5.

*Ethier, J. A. C.* (Two Mountains)—1269.

Three features of the new Budget have given rise to objections and protests: the system of taxation, its unequal distribution and the retroactive clause; and I do think that in all three respects the new Budget is inconsistent and objectionable, 1269. Lord Shaughnessy and others quoted, 1270-5.

*Foster, Sir George* (Minister of Trade and Commerce)—903.

Taxation, whenever it comes, is apt to hit some one harder than another; it is a thing which most people would rather not encounter, but I am convinced that, in so far as the prosecution of this war is concerned, either by the active one hundred thousand, or the two hundred thousand, or the ultimate three or four hundred thousand that go to the front, the seven million five hundred thousand who remain at home are prepared to cheerfully pay what is necessary in order that the men at the front may do their work, 903. It is a fair proposition that all amounts expended, whether by the Militia Department or by any other department, the purpose of which was immediately to support and carry on the war, should be charged to the war, 905-6. The question of patronage referred to, 907. New taxes referred to, 907. The business and economic situation after the war, 908-12. Summing these certainties up, thoughtful men say that the year which comes with the introduction of conferences for peace will possibly be the most strenuous, the most dangerous, and the most fatal year of the whole period from a business point of view, 913. We must also learn to practise economy in all expenditures, public or private, to improve the production of the country, both in quality and in quantity, to invite and direct immigration on sound and discriminating principles, and to reinforce efficiency in production by technical education and thus combine as far as possible the factory and the laboratory, 914-15.

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*Graham, Hon. G. P.* (Renfrew South)—109£.

I regret that, with the present Government, either the Finance Minister is not sufficiently strong, or the members are too unruly, because he has not been able to keep them in subjection as far as their expenditure is concerned, 1100. If I wished to say a word politically, I might say that it was a strong admission the Finance Minister made, that after three years of the management of his Government Canada found herself in a more critical position than she had been since his party was in power before, 1101. I do not wish to dilate on these matters at any great length, because my desire is that we, as a Parliament, should not be divided in the schemes which we are trying to work out for the nation's good, 1102. Our business is now not to act from a party standpoint in the hope of gaining political advantage, but calmly to try to find how we can get the money which we need and how we can get it from the sources that ought to pay it, and that we need the money goes without saying, 1103-08.

*Hughes, J. J.* (Kings, P.E.I.)—1118.

Expenditures discussed, 1119-22. War supplies referred to and Government scored for extravagance, 1122-6.

*Lancot, Roch* (Laprairie and Napierville)—1035.

Thinks expenditure has overstepped all bounds and control, 1035. Ontario school question referred to, 1036. Criticises the speech of Mr. Patenaude, 1037. Taxes new and old discussed, 1038. Hay referred to, 1039-40.

*Lemieux, Hon. R.* (Rouville)—1143.

The spirit of the Canadian people with regard to the war has never been better exemplified than during the weary months that have passed since August, 1914, 114. I now come to the ways and means proposed by the Minister of Finance in order that Canada may stand the test during this crucial period. Let us be sincere with ourselves; let us face the facts as they are, not as we would like them to be, 1146. Thinks Sir Wilfrid Laurier should have been taken into the Cabinet, 1147. This Government have been playing politics, instead of playing the part of statesmen. What have they done since 1911? If they really wanted to help the Mother Country, if they were really in earnest, would they not stop at once every foolish expenditure and use the money to purchase equipment and necessities for our soldiers, 1148. Departmental expenditures referred to, 1149. I say, let us have a round table conference in the House of Commons. Let us form a committee, and let us apply the pruning knife to the scandalous expenditure of the various departments of the Government, 1150. Free wheat referred to, 1152. Thinks taxes on munition makers not high enough, 1153.