

into the Consolidated Revenue Fund there would be a tremendous deficit at the end of each fiscal year. Indeed, there seems occasionally to be a sort of fellowship meeting in this House, and things are allowed to run through until it is almost enough to make a person think that the Fathers of Confederation, the men who sat in this House years ago, would turn over in their graves if they could see what was becoming of Canada to-day.

The present Minister of Marine and Fisheries has begun a shipbuilding programme. As the hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Turgeon) said, hon. members on the other side of the House have a great faculty of doing the right thing at the wrong time. Procrastination is the thief of time, and to undertake a great shipbuilding scheme at this time with tonnage costing \$200, or double what it should, and without our being able to get cargoes on the other side to bring here, as well as cargoes to carry over, is almost inconceivable. Where are we drifting. Mr. Turfiff of the Senate had to raise the matter there. I would think, by reading his remarks in the press, that he thought there were no men in this House—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. I must ask the hon. member not to refer to debates in the upper House.

MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Sir. I probably am not very well acquainted with Parliamentary procedure. He used to sit in this House; but what he said struck me as a warning, and I cannot see where we are drifting unless into a desperate situation which we cannot get out of. If I may be pardoned for using personalities, I am one who has been willing to go into things very deeply, to hypothecate every particle of property that I have when I could see with my optics a thing that was not too speculative, and in the different contingencies that have come up, I have had to sweat to get out. The Government is getting into that debt from which I see no way out unless we have an enormous immigration into this country and a tremendous production.

The Government owns practically the whole press of this country. Why have they not asked the press to drive the facts home to the people of Canada that we must have production from the soil? We know very well that timber is a quick asset, and that farm lands give an annual crop. Now if the people had been prevailed on to go back on the land and produce, we should have had something with which to pay our

[Mr. Baldwin.]

national debt. Let me warn the Government and all those within sound of my voice, that a year from now food stuffs will cost more than they do to-day. Eggs, when they can be got, are going into cold storage at fifty cents. Butter is more than ten cents higher than a year ago; salt pork, which can be barrelled and kept for years, is now \$70 a barrel. Everything made of fats has gone up. Soap is jumping and will probably be as high in this country in a year or two as the boys had to pay for it in France, and that is a tremendous price.

There is no way out except, to use the words of the Minister of Finance, to produce and save. I prefer the more homely expression "work." We never shall be able to pay our national debt by working only six hours a day. After the American war the people of that country went into farming in a most extensive way. They did not build up any navy; foreign powers did their carrying trade. Farm lands were taken up right to the foot of the Rockies, the population increased tremendously, and the United States became a great manufacturing country. And then they commenced to build a navy, but not a very big one until after the war started. Canada is in a very bad environment because we are living next to a populous and rich nation, and we are acquiring the habit of spending money and spending it needlessly. If this poor country was, back in the position it was in fifty or sixty years ago we would be in a much better position to pay our debt than we are to-day. We have taken on the burdens of a rich people. Look at the automobiles in this country to-day. Look at the money that is being spent in the playhouses. The United States closed up their amusement houses during the war, but nothing of that kind was done in Canada.

In this country, I am told, we have only 185 people to every mile of railway, which is a greater mileage according to population probably than any other country in the world, and yet—I do not want to insult the West—the people of the West are coming down here and asking for railways into every squaw settlement and back region. Other people are talking about aeroplanes to go to the moon, the North Pole, the Yukon, and everywhere else. Let us come to our senses as loyal patriotic Canadians and realize that we have got to buckle down to work, economize, and save. There is no harm in my saying that, because the great banks of this country have issued letters warning people against buying too many new clothes, and when those letters were issued the clothes which cost twenty