

Hon. Mr. McKeen: As I say, the \$750 million is export to the sterling area. The United Kingdom's portion is \$550 million.

Hon. Mr. Hayden: Are you in a position to say how much of the export to the sterling area is made up of E.C.A.?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: I have not a break-down of the figures in that way, but if my honourable friend is correct in this figure of \$300 million, only approximately one-third would go to the sterling area. Our exports for this year for all sterling areas will be \$750 million, of which the United Kingdom will get \$550 million.

Hon. Mr. Hayden: Do you not think it is a little difficult to say, when we are extending our trade to sterling areas with exports made up for the most part of E.C.A. purposes?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: Our exports to the United Kingdom have come down a little. In 1947 our exports amounted to \$751 million. That is when they were buying a good deal by E.C.A. On the other hand, during that same period our purchases from the United Kingdom amounted to only \$189 million. Our increase of purchases from \$189 million to \$250 million is providing the United Kingdom with extra dollars with which to purchase the goods they need. The position of that country has been the same as our own with respect to the United States. If the U.K. did not have dollars she could not buy from us, and as our purchases only amounted to \$189 million from her, she could buy from us only to that extent. To go beyond that amount she would have to use some other form of credit, such as gold, or give some other services. We have now given them an extra \$150 million of purchasing power in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Nicol: May I ask the honourable gentleman where he gets his figures on the national production?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: They are from the Department of Trade and Commerce, and I secured them from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In this connection I would strongly recommend that every honourable senator secure from the bureau a copy of the pamphlet entitled *Canada at the Halfway Mark*, which sets forth all the recent statistics, and is well worth reading.

Hon. Mr. Euler: But the Bureau of Statistics is a branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Hon. Mr. McKeen: Very well; I hope no one suggests that the figures are coloured by the department.

Hon. Mr. Euler: No, no. May I ask my friend if in the total exports he includes the sale of wheat?

Hon. Mr. Haig: Of course.

Hon. Mr. McKeen: That is included as an export.

Hon. Mr. Euler: But not gold?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: Gold is excluded from these figures.

Hon. Mr. Euler: Why?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: I do not know.

Hon. Mr. Euler: It takes labour to produce gold, and it is one of Canada's products. I see no reason why it should not be included in the total exports, the same as any other commodity.

Hon. Mr. McKeen: The authorities may have an explanation for not including it, but I do not know what the answer is.

I gave some figures of expenditures for new investment in Canada this year, totalling \$3.7 billion. It should be pointed out that of that amount only \$2.5 billion is for new construction, about \$750 million being spent for repairs and maintenance. The interesting part of this program is that 70 per cent of it is financed by private citizens out of their own savings. The government is not increasing the volume of construction; in fact, there is a great backlog of government work to be done.

In the discussion of controls yesterday it was pointed out that when they were removed prices rose very substantially, and that one of the reasons for this was the pent-up buying-power at the end of the war. The government has benefited by its experience during the period of rising prices, and is now trying to allow a free flow of goods and services, so as to prevent any reaction following the removal of such restrictions as may be in force.

By this bill the government is asking only for power to restrict essential materials and services, including, particularly, electrical energy. This will permit the steady production of war materials without interfering with civilian production, except in so far as certain materials will be used for defence purposes. It is felt that the bill will allow civilian production to be carried on in a relatively normal fashion.

Hon. Mr. Euler: When do the powers terminate?

Hon. Mr. McKeen: I am not sure.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: On July 31, 1950.

Hon. Mr. Haig: The same as in the bill passed yesterday.