

closely interwoven are the war and the after-war years. I think that is clear, though in my opinion the minister's proposals conspicuously fail to offer a lead toward a solution of the dilemma of our time. That dilemma is the dilemma of want amid actual and potential plenty. Our fighting men deserve the best. They must not be allowed to return to Canada as a part of the world of yesterday. Therefore I say, lest this happen as it happened after the last war, let us prepare now for the expenditure of at least \$5,000,000,000 in the two years following the war. Why have I made that suggestion so frequently to this house in the last two or three years? Because I believe that in planning our post-war activities we should have a target and the assurance that certain moneys will be available and that this parliament is prepared to appropriate them. If we can appropriate, as we are doing this year, more than \$5,000,000,000 in one year for the prosecution of the war, then we ought, as a very minimum, to say that we are going to commit parliament to the expenditure of \$5,000,000,000 for the two years following the war. I believe, if we do that, we can get our people to plan comprehensively to meet post-war needs in housing, electrification and all the other things which would improve the standards of life in this country.

I fear the future unless we have comprehensive plans. I believe that some of the countries of the world are going to undergo great economic and social upheavals. In spite of what another hon. member said to-day, they are the party promoting revolution. We want to see orderly democratic progress made in our country. That is the purpose for which we organized and the way in which we desire to lead public opinion in this dominion. This expenditure, set beside our war expenditures, seems paltry, but it is, I insist, the minimum figure. It is at least a target to shoot at, something solid on which to hang our hopes for a better Canada to come.

By pledging this we demonstrate the sincerity of our desire to build a new world. The governor of the Bank of Canada and the report of the James committee on reconstruction agree on this; that capital investments of a billion and a half dollars annually must be made in order to achieve jobs for everyone after the war. These are not my opinions. These are the opinions of the chairman of the James committee and the governor of the Bank of Canada. Therefore you see that the suggestion of \$5,000,000,000 in two years, which we made two years ago, is not so far beyond the mark as most of our critics suggested when we made it. Private enterprise, by itself,

[Mr. Coldwell.]

has not the remotest chance of meeting this total. Even the optimistic forecasts of its propagandists fall far short of it. What is needed is a new freedom to organize production in the public interest. We must bid good-bye to the restrictive practices of orthodox finance and orthodox industry whose only care has been the making of private profit.

Let me quote, Mr. Speaker, from none other than Winston Churchill himself in his book, "The World Crisis—The Aftermath." Speaking of the close of the last great war the present Prime Minister of Great Britain had this to say. While I do not agree with all that Mr. Churchill has said or done, I agree with the statement that he made at the close of the last war, which I am going to quote. He said then:

The organization and machinery of which we disposed was powerful and flexible in an extraordinary degree. The able businessmen among us, each the head of a large group of departments, had now been working for a year and a half in a kind of industrial cabinet. They were accustomed to unexpected changes enforced by the shifting fortunes of war. There was very little in the productive sphere they could not, at that time, actually do. A requisition, for instance, for half a million houses would not have seemed more difficult to comply with than those we were already in process of executing for a hundred thousand aeroplanes, or twenty thousand guns, or the medium artillery of the American army, or two million tons of projectiles. But a new set of conditions began to rule from eleven o'clock onwards. The money-cost, which had never been considered by us to be a factor capable of limiting the supply of the armies, asserted a claim to priority from the moment the fighting stopped.

The return of the cabinet to money-cost as the sole governing factor wrecked the dream and the war-time pledge that the British expeditionary force should return in 1918 to "a land fit for heroes." The heroes came back to stagnation and the dole.

In this country we have disregarded the money-costs for the destructive purposes of war. Let us do likewise for the constructive purposes of peace. After all, money is but the medium of exchange. If we fabricate the physical assets, if we can make the commodities, surely we should be able to distribute them among our people and the nations. As has already been said this afternoon, we have to-day one of the most highly trained groups of young men that the world has ever seen. The mechanized army, the men in our air force, have been trained in the operation of machines, in the knowledge of machines, in a manner that no other generation was ever trained. We hope that most of them will come back to us when the war is over. How are they going to live? They are not going back to the bread lines; they are not going back to ridding the roads; they are not going back to