

of July. In the months of March, April, May, June and July the increases in the imports were 17.6 per cent, 18.9 per cent, 22.8 per cent, 20 per cent and 14.8 per cent. Then what happened? Then came the war and when I stated the other night that the war came along, arguing that it had had a definite effect upon this country's trade, I was met with a burst of laughter. The returns of the United States show that up to the month of July there had been an increase in imports from abroad. In August there was a 5.7 per cent decrease, in September an 18.1 per cent decrease, in October a 3.6 per cent increase, in November 14.7 per cent decrease and in December a 37.7 per cent decrease. The same is true of Australia and I have the record in my hand.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Give the figures for Australia.

Mr. WHITE: I do not want to weary the House. The returns for Australia for the months of March, April, May, June and July showed an increase of 17.3 per cent, 4 per cent, 15.4 per cent, 2.9 per cent, and 11.9 per cent respectively. Then what happened when the war broke out? In August there was a decrease of 4.5 per cent; September a decrease of 30.5 per cent, and in October a decrease of 28.3 per cent. Yet hon. gentlemen opposite tell me that the war has had no effect upon the revenues of this country. The sole exception in all the world is Canada! What a compliment—an unintentional compliment—to this Government that could bring about such a modern miracle!

Mr. PUGSLEY: It is not a compliment to this Government, but it is a compliment to Canada.

Mr. WHITE: I am very glad that my hon. friend has interrupted me, because I recall something that I had inadvertently overlooked. My hon. friend was speaking about the way they acted during the consulship of Plancus. Hon. gentlemen who have read their Horace will remember the consulship of Plancus, who flourished in the days of ancient Rome. Let me tell my hon. friend what happened in the year 1908, the year to which my hon. friend wanted to draw our attention. What were the total estimates for nine months of the year 1907, the year of the great panic? They were \$75,000,000, or for the whole year, \$100,000,000. Next year, 1908, the year in which my hon. friend made, not a sacrifice hit, but a sacrifice, the estimates of expenditure were \$124,000,000, and in 1909 they were \$133,000,000. Excelsior was his motto.

The total expenditure in 1905-6 was \$83,000,000, and in 1911-12, only five years afterwards, it was \$137,000,000. My hon. friend has asked me as to consolidated fund expenditure, and I answer him that in 1905-6 it was \$67,000,000 and in 1911-12 it was \$98,000,000. My hon. friend has also asked me about capital expenditure. The minor public works do not trouble a finance minister; what troubles him are these great undertakings such as we have inherited from the Liberal Government. It is not a question of finding a few dollars for a post office; it is a question of finding tens of millions of dollars, a considerable portion of which will be lost to the Dominion, in respect to some of these ill-advised projects which were undertaken by hon. gentlemen opposite. The capital expenditure in 1905-06 was \$12,000,000, and in 1908-09, under this excelsior policy—I had almost said this German policy of extension—it had reached \$42,000,000, or 3½ times what it was four years before. And yet I am charged with extravagance by these gentlemen opposite. Let me ask my hon. friend how he met that? Let me ask hon. gentlemen opposite how they provided this money that they required to meet the rising expenditure in 1905, 1906, 1907, and 1908, which culminated in the enormous expenditure of 1911-12.