

The Budget—Mr. Cockeram

fare is \$40 return. The fifteen per cent tax adds \$6 to that, which the worker in that area has to pay. If he travelled the same distance by railway he would pay a tax of only about thirty cents. The minister should immediately do away with this tax on air transportation to remote areas which have no other means of transport. This should be done to benefit those who are working in the mines because, when they come out for holidays, just that much more expense is involved.

The devastating effect of the minister's action at this time is bound to have repercussions in the future. If the mining industry is to survive, new mines must be found to-day. This was once recognized by the government, and I quote from the dominion proposals to the dominion-provincial conference:

The great export industries are agriculture, forestry, mining and, to a lesser degree, fishing. An accelerated resources development programme would provide alternative income to these great export groups if exports are low. Non-urban road development programmes will have the same effect as far as agriculture, forestry and mining are concerned, although it is not apt to help the fisheries industry directly to any great extent. Increased income of the primary export groups would greatly help the remainder of the economy by maintaining both consumption and investment outlay.

A decline in private investment expenditure releases workers of various skills from employment and lowers the amounts of producer materials used. The resources development programme would help provide employment directly and indirectly to many of these people.

Records show that the Canadian mineral production from 1907 to 1944, inclusive, according to figures compiled by the bureau of statistics, reached the staggering figure of \$10,005,699,893. This sum represents two-thirds of the Canadian government's bonded debt to-day.

Just in order to give a little encouragement to those who sit to my left, I should like, if I may, to table a list of Ontario producing gold mines which ceased operations between 1939 and 1944, and which paid no returns to shareholders, and the total production value from commencement to date of closing. The total production of these 39 mines was \$21,859,000. No dividends were paid, but production taxes of some kind were paid on all these mines.

Mr. ILSLEY: This would have to be with the unanimous consent of the house.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. member unanimous consent?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. COCKERAM: The table is as follows:

Table showing list of Ontario producing gold mines which ceased operations between 1939 and 1944 and which paid no returns to share-

[Mr. Cockeram.]

holders; and giving total production value from commencement to date of closing (in thousands of dollars):

Mine	Production Value in thousands of dollars
Algoma Summit	298
Centennial	18
Cordova	134
De Santis	1,340
Devon	2
Elora	49
Feymar	841
Golden Gate	984
Goldwood	114
*Gold Eagle	1,484
Hiawatha	5
Hoyle	1,785
Jubilee	57
J-M Consolidated	966
Jellicoe	214
Jerome	2,190
Kenwest	36
Kenapo	6
Kenricia	94
Lebel Oro	376
Mayboro	2
Mace	686
Morris Kirkland	615
Nakhados	251
New Golden Rose	1,657
Orelia	2
Porcupine Lake	46
Ranson	6
Ronda	99
Roven River	268
Regnery	112
Sandy Beach	1
St. Anthony	1,977
Straw Lake	428
Tianoga	82
Tyranite	1,156
Uchi	4,363
Upper Seine	13
Yama	102
Total—39 mines	21,859

* No dividends but paid a small return on capital investment on closing.

In the early days of the war, when gold was so necessary to enable Canada to buy goods and materials in the United States, the gold mines were asked by the then minister of finance to increase their production, with the result that gold production was increased from \$166,205,990 in 1938 to \$205,789,392 in 1941. This great increase in production was brought about as a general economic loss to the mines, because they mined their richest veins in order to get production.

Not only did they trespass upon their ore reserves, but they paid taxes on fictitious profits, because at that time they were unable to do the development work which normally a mine must do to keep ahead. The result was that the mines paid taxes on those profits, and did not get any relief from taxation at that time.

I say to the minister, in closing, that in spite of this body-blow which has been admin-