

Britain shall spend her millions in Canada getting made here what she can better and more cheaply make in Great Britain for the prosecution of the war, and thereby leave herself without funds to buy what is absolutely necessary, food for the British people, from Canada, which can and does raise that food and wishes to supply it. If this Government is going to urge the British Government to purchase anything in this country, it will be not munitions, but the fruits of the earth, the products of the soil, the farmer's increment, which Great Britain cannot supply and which we can supply in abundance. I leave my hon. friend from St. John to his argument that this Government shall make a plea to the Government of Great Britain that Great Britain shall continue to make her expenditures in this country in such a way that we may carry on the manufacture of munitions to the same extent as before. Great Britain has bought munitions in Canada to a tremendous extent. During the last two years and a half she has expended nearly \$400,000,000 on munitions in this country, perhaps more than that, I have not the exact figures. She has done that because she has needed those things, because she was not then fully equipped for making them, and also because we financed the purchases for her. But as soon as she became thoroughly equipped to make all those munitions that she needed and has a surplus from which to supply her Allies, was it not wise and right that she should give that work to her own people, keep that money in her own country, and thereby more economically and cheaply throw her resources into the field for the successful prosecution of the war?

My colleague the Minister of Finance has very frankly laid before this House some phases of the financial question, about which we probably do not think as much as we might and which it is very difficult for us adequately to sense. It may very well be thought that Great Britain is the richest country in the world; that she has interminable resources. To a certain extent it is true that she is rich and has great resources; but the financial burdens imposed upon Great Britain from the beginning of the war are also beyond the power of the human mind to grasp. She has upon her shoulders the financial burden of maintaining the greatest fleet in the world, a fleet now almost double what it was at the beginning of the war. Instead of an army of 150,000 men which she had trained when the war began, she is maintaining

an army of well up to four or five millions of men which she is maintaining. She carries on operations in every continent and in almost every quarter of the globe. She has her military expeditions in South Africa, Asia, Italy, the Balkans, Mesopotamia and at the front in France. She has contingents of her forces everywhere. She shoulders that whole work. Her Allies, France, Italy, Russia, Belgium and the Balkan States have depended upon Great Britain, and generously she has given them the support without which they could not have done what they have done. All that comes upon Great Britain and any one who will carefully think that over and try to realize what it means will come to the conclusion that there are not immeasurable depths of resources in Great Britain. To make a long story short, Great Britain to-day finds the very greatest difficulty in financing her needs and the needs of the war. Canada has stood behind her as no other outside dominions has done or has been able to do, not that others have not had as good a will, but they have not had the resources and therefore, they have not been able to do as much as Canada has done. But Canada has tried to do her share in that respect. Why do hon. gentlemen opposite continually minimize and scout at what Canada has done in this war? I am willing to make this proposition. If you will put before a committee of the first men of the world, versed in these affairs, Canada's effort and what she has done in these three years of war, their verdict would be that it was simply astounding that a country, with a population of 7,000,000, had done what Canada has done during this great and terrible struggle. But to hear some hon. gentlemen speak, one would think that Canada had done nothing; that she was absolutely useless in this whole war, wholly without effort, vigour, capacity or efficiency. Do not let us, for the sake of a personal or party advantage, disparage altogether the work, worth and effort—of the Government, do you say?—no, but of the people of Canada who alone have enabled the Government to do what they have done.

So the matter of financing for the future is a very difficult problem. Here was your cheese industry in Canada running up to \$40,000,000, or \$50,000,000, or \$60,000,000. Britain was not able to finance for that cheese. So Canada came in and financed for it, and is doing it to this day. There is also your bacon and hog industry, and the live stock industry. Great Britain needed that cheese, but Great