

should have been very small. To judge of the expenditure, he asked the House to consider the amount this increase of \$1,267,866 would represent if capitalized at the rate of interest we paid for loans—four per cent. If hon. gentlemen would make the calculation they would find it represented the enormous sum of \$31,682,562. That was apart from all other increased expenditure, of which there was a considerable amount to be found in the statute book, and not in the public accounts at all, but chargeable on various funds. It would be worth the while of some statistician to go through the statute book for the last two or three years, and see what the new charges really amounted to. If they were added to the expenditure of which he had given details and the total capitalized, it would give an amount probably of not less than \$35,000,000. When the House considered that the income of this amount, at the rate of four per cent., had been disbursed for purposes which showed no valuable result, which yielded no return to the country, they would agree with him that the gravity of the increased expenditure could scarcely be exaggerated. The burden of the country would have been no greater than it is had the Minister of France when in England effected an additional loan of £21,682,562 at 4 per cent. and invested the amount in Trust for the benefit of those who were receiving the increased expenditure of \$1,267,302 which he had pointed out. It was quite possible a small portion of that expenditure might have been necessary, but if instead of distributing a great part of it in the payment of supernumeraries in the various departments and throughout the public service—instead of letting the money slip through the hands of the Administration like water through a sieve—a portion of it had been expended in opening up our new territory, and in developing the resources of the country, how different would be the position of Canada to-day. It could have been shown that this country offered inducements to the working man of Europe which no other country offered at that time. Had it been proclaimed abroad that this country was going on as rapidly as it prudently could with the construction of the Pacific Railway and the opening of the Northwest, the Minister of Agriculture would not have had to instruct his agent in England to issue a circular and send it broadcast over Europe declaring there were no attractions in Canada for emi-

grants, no employment for them here, and that he must discountenance their coming. He presumed the circular was not issued without authority. It was unfortunate that such a circular should have been issued. Its effects would be felt for a long time. It would give an argument to every American and other emigration agent in Europe to use against Canada—and a most powerful argument it would be—to prevent people from coming to this country. It was one of the most unfortunate things ever done for Canada. People to settle the unoccupied lands was what the country required, but people was what the Government seemed to dread, and they had succeeded in checking emigration. A despondent tone pervaded every utterance of the Government that he had listened to in this House, or read in the speeches delivered in another place, or in their speeches delivered anywhere outside of Parliament. Their whole tone was a despondent one. But while they had not colonized our new Territory or developed the resources of the country as they ought to have done, they had committed the Dominion, as he had shown, to an extravagant and unproductive annual expenditure that it would be difficult if not impossible to reduce. It was easy to increase such expenditure, but very difficult to reduce it. The Government would seem to have been lavish when they should have been economical, and parsimonious when liberal expenditure would have been wise. This was done by a Government whose policy when they succeeded to office was declared to be *par excellence* one of reform, retrenchment and economy, he hoped the country would hold them to a strict reckoning for the expenditure. He was not one to hold any Administration strictly responsible for the prosperity or adversity of the country which they governed, but there was no denying the fact that Government could do much to promote the one, and alleviate the other. They could do a great deal to inspire the people with confidence in the future, and let them feel that the Government sympathized with them. He was afraid that was not the case at present. When new enterprises were spoken of, the question was generally asked, "What is the Government likely to do? What is their policy?" When a doubt existed as to the policy of the Government, capitalists would be cautious in investing in enterprises that could be affected by legisla-