

the raw material of our forests, farms and mines and change these into manufactured materials perhaps fifty fold, will find that every time the raw material is turned over, that every application of industrial skill applied to it adds to the value and adds to the wealth of the country and helps to increase and maintain the position of Canada in the commerce of the world which she has so recently attained.

I am glad that we can also feel that we are to be congratulated on the increased revenues of the country. A full purse is a good thing to have unless it turns its owner into an insolent and aggressive person. A full purse induced the Republican party in the United States to open a barrel, as they called it, every session and distribute the contents of that barrel amongst the States in a way that would help the Republican party. The practice in England, when the revenue increases beyond the necessities of the country is to reduce taxation. The practice is to take off a penny in the pound on income or reduce the tax on tea or on some other article of common consumption. We have no indication in the address of any such intention here, no indication that the government intends to do anything in that direction, but whether a movement of that kind is to be made or not it is pleasant to know that the trade relations which have now been in operation for fifteen years or even twenty years has a tendency to give our people constant employment and to so enrich them that they can pay into the treasury of this Dominion more freely without feeling to any extent the effect on their own personal income. We must remember, however, that we should not move too hastily in the way of expenditure even if our revenue is large, and that in every instance we should so apply these abundant resources as to increase the well-being of the people whose money we spend. We have a large national debt, not very large as compared with Australia, nor large as compared with some continental countries, but our national debt is not the only one we bear. I am told, on the authority of a great British statistician, that we have eighteen hundred million dollars of money in Canada that is not our own. At four

per cent the interest on that would represent seventy-two million a year. That has to be paid, and must be paid out of the industry of the people of this country. The farmer must feel that somewhere, and so must the artisan and the man living upon an income such as men now enjoy, and so in some insidious way the seventy million dollars of interest must be taken out of the pockets and the earnings of the people. In view of the fact, it might be well for us to consider how the large revenue we have now may be best expended in order to add to our wealth producing powers and make those who carry the burdens of our great industries feel that burden as little as possible.

I agree with the hon. mover and seconder of the resolution that the influx of immigrants to Canada, during the last year was greater than the previous year, is a very valuable asset for Canada. I do not know how we could bear our burdens, and I do not know how we could develop the resources of this country by our own right hand were it not for the constant increase of our population. If we reflect for a moment we will see that 350,000 people in one year represent a whole province, almost as large as New Brunswick, Alberta or British Columbia, almost as large as the entire population, say, of the capital of Ontario, Toronto. To think of these thousands pulsating with a desire to better their conditions, bringing to this country many prejudices and many of them skill of a very high order, many of them with high aspirations, to place them under the protection of the Canadian flag, to be educated in a Canadian school, taxed by Canadian government, to till Canadian soil, to build up Canadian industry, means that there is on the government of Canada a great responsibility, and if in any way their homes can be made happier, and their circumstances more congenial, the government would be justified in contributing in any way possible to that end. But that is not the point I wish to make. An important consideration is that many of these immigrants do not come to us empty handed. I read in a newspaper a short time ago that at a conference in Minneapolis, Jesse Hill, son of the great railway king, presided. They