

money for public works and the keeping up of our factories, Canada may not have those serious troubles which are threatening in other countries.

Now, while all may look very rosy on its face, there are as it were psychological conditions in this country. We are face to face with a dislocation; there are going to be changes in the experience of this country which cannot be prevented. The trade of the country is an evidence of that. In 1914 we had exports aggregating \$455,437,224; we had imports aggregating \$648,457,144, our exports being less than our imports. Contrast those figures with the figures of last year, when our exports were swollen to the tremendous sum of \$1,586,169,792 as against imports of \$962,543,746. We cannot hope that our exports will be greater than our imports this year or for years to come. There is a dislocation and no magician's wand, protective policy, or anything of that kind will have the effect of balancing things up; and any result that will enure to the people must be obtained by thrift on the part of the people and an increase in production wherever an increase of trade can be obtained. I know people will say that the Government should be supreme in the matter; we hear a great deal of lack of initiative on the part of the Government. During the war there was plenty of initiative shown by the business men in Canada. I recall seeing in the public press from time to time that men connected with the industrial life of Canada had invaded the British market and secured orders for rails, munitions of war, and many other things—they had become their own commercial travellers. Why cannot Canadians to-day become their own commercial travellers and go abroad and establish markets? Coming from Ontario, I am pleased to be able to say that many manufacturers there are doing that: in lumbering, clothing, and other businesses they are sending agents abroad who are practically doing the work of commercial travellers. The Canadian Pacific railway for many years has carried on a propaganda for the purpose of inducing a desirable class of farmers to settle on western lands. The dissemination of a knowledge of the facts will establish what Canada can do towards filling up the markets of the world, particularly those of Europe, and will enure, I hope, to the benefit of this country.

Lying as we do alongside the United States, we have reason to be thankful that we have not made some of the mistakes which they have fallen into. We are not

confronted with a promise of wheat at an advanced price; we are not confronted with a loss which, for the United States, is estimated at \$1,250,000,000.

We have not embarked upon a naval shipbuilding scheme, as they have in the United States, which is already of such proportions that on the vessels in which they have already invested they have been forced to mark off, on profit and loss account, no less than \$1,000,000,000. I am glad for the country as a whole that we have not acted as they have done.

Now, I am going to devote my remarks more particularly to what I shall call a trinity of interests, I believe the greatest interests in the country, and interests which will tend to keep the country going in the future and to make it great for all time to come. These interests are the agricultural interest, the transportation interest, and the manufacturing interest. Agriculture has been well said to be the basis of wealth. To show that agriculture bids fair to maintain its reputation, let me give these figures: In 1914, agriculture produced \$638,580,300; last year that was swelled to \$1,383,000,000. I am going to admit at the outset that the increase is not altogether by reason of the quantity produced, but by reason of advanced prices, because last year one commodity that we all know, wheat, was ruling at a much higher price than before the war. Agriculture rears its head as a great interest in this country, and is one in which the country must take stock, and we must be prepared to advance all the money necessary to improve that interest. We know that as the harvest is progressing in the Northwest not only is the farmer sitting up at night wondering whether there are going to be early frosts, wondering whether there are going to be conditions which will affect the crops; but that down here in the East every banking baron is sitting up at nights wondering what the crop is going to be; which proves that the crop of the Northwest, particularly the wheat crop, is not a question of East or a question of West, but is a question affecting the whole country.

In passing, let me refer to the soldier settlement scheme. That matter, no doubt, will be before the House upon some future occasion, because it deserves a good deal of debate; I shall therefore not make any extended remarks in regard to that. I do believe that by a well-settled policy under which the soldiers may be congregated, so to speak, by a community of interest, a great benefit will accrue to the country, and to the soldiers. The basis of recon-