

The Budget—Mr. Carroll

The announcement has been made that the government is going to cut out all unnecessary expenditures. I have always been hopeful that no government in this country would spend money on something that was unnecessary. I do not quite understand that statement. I would not like to see the public services of this country suffer because of our war effort. Talking now of my own constituency, it is just as important to keep the public services going and in good repair as it is to put down communism, although I think that further steps should be taken so far as some of the communistic leaders are concerned. However, that is a matter for the judgment of the government. I represent a constituency that, with the exception of one other in British Columbia, has perhaps the longest coast line in Canada. That coast line is inhabited by Scotsmen, Irishmen, Englishmen and good French Acadians who have established themselves along the shores. In times gone by they have made their living, and are doing so now, from their little farms and the fishing industry. Through the years the government helped to supply them with breakwaters where they were necessary in small communities to give some protection to their boats, because they can only fish in small boats. There were wharves here and there.

During the first world war these public services were neglected, and in the last world war they were neglected. After the first world war it took more to put them in decent shape than it would have taken to build new ones. The same thing is happening now. I do not wish to see any unnecessary expenditures. However, if there is to be an attempt to keep away from what the government calls unnecessary expenditures, I wish to protest most strongly that the government should not do anything to interfere with public services such as I have mentioned.

Many years ago the town of Inverness had a flourishing fishing fleet. Thousands of barrels of mackerel were caught. A mine was opened there and the people left their boats to rot on the shores. They left their farm implements to rot in the fields, and went into the mine. So far as a worth-while occupation was concerned, their occupation was gone. Today I am told that the coal mine is about finished. I am hoping that the government will see to it that that little harbour is opened up again to give some access to small fishing boats. There is a recommendation to that effect from Nova Scotia engineers.

To indicate what can be done so far as keeping up public services along the lines I have suggested is concerned, I bring to your attention the village of Cheticamp,

[Mr. Carroll.]

which years ago was a flourishing fishing village with a fairly good harbour. Then an industry was started there, fishing prices were bad and the people practically gave up their occupation—not in the sense that Othello's occupation was gone—but they really entered an occupation for which they were not fitted. Four or five years ago the fishermen of that village got together and with the help of the federal government and the Nova Scotia government they organized a little freezer for their bait. No village in the province of Nova Scotia has made such advances as the village of Cheticamp has in the last four years.

This government is also doing something along other lines. In the town of Louisburg a large fish plant is being built. That is a place where big vessels go in and out, and the little fellows are a bit too far away. They cannot get there. There is also splendid work going on at Petite de Grat. A United States company has come in there and the co-operative fishermen have leased their establishment to this fishing company. That is going to make a tremendous difference. For all that I for one thank the government, and would thank any other government that was in power. What I am trying to impress upon the government is that the necessities of the times even in war do not warrant not keeping up the public services of the country which are of advantage to any particular place.

Mr. Clarence Gillis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I had intended to make a rather academic speech on this budget a few days from now, analysing its economic and financial aspects; but the remarks of my learned and hon. friend who just took his seat (Mr. Carroll) provoked me into rising and saying something at this time entirely different from what I had intended to say. During the course of his remarks the hon. gentleman stated that he had said something a few days ago, and he did not know why he said it. I am sure if he reads *Hansard* tomorrow he will wonder why he said a great many of the things he said this evening.

Just by way of a basis for the rest of what I have to say, after listening to the hon. member this evening anyone from this part of the country who is not familiar with developments in the maritimes over the past thirty years would think everything was fine, there were no problems, the government had found a solution to every difficulty, and that the troubles existing in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and now in Newfoundland, are entirely the responsibility of the people themselves because of their lack of vision and their lack of confidence in the future of that part of the