

imported from the United States. I have no doubt hon. members see the point I have in mind when I say that an import board should have discretionary powers to restrict the bringing in of pine and hardwood for that particular specification when we have an abundance of Canadian white pine, maple, birch and various hardwoods which would do a good job. I give that to illustrate my meaning when I say that we should have an import board functioning in Canada.

Necessary war supplies should also come first. In other words we should classify all the goods that come into the country and give necessary war supplies the right of way, taking other materials in the order of their importance, so that we shall not have too great an influx of luxuries to the displacement of necessary war materials. And if we had an import board we should also have an export board to help export our surpluses. We cannot possibly consume all the wheat which is grown in Canada, and our pulp and paper, our lumber and non-ferrous metals must find export markets. I say therefore that an export board would have real work to do in trying to find these export markets to absorb our surpluses. But they should be given the power to take all necessary action.

We all remember what happened in the wool industry when war was first declared. Wool was being exported by scores of carloads. The hon. member for Brantford (Mr. Macdonald) who is in his place, no doubt knows what took place. I have a vivid recollection of someone in a constituency adjoining his calling me up on the long distance telephone to try to get an export licence to ship seven cars of wool to the United States in order to take advantage of that market. He got them out. Many scores of other cars were got out of the country, notwithstanding the fact that we produce only twenty per cent of our requirements and have to buy elsewhere. An export board should have the necessary authority to stop the export of materials of that kind in a time of war. What obtains in that regard obtains in regard to scrap iron, copper, aluminum and other metals used in our war effort. We should always keep in mind the importance of doing everything possible to enable Britain to have sufficient dollars wherewith to buy the products which we must export.

We shall no doubt hear something about wheat to-day. Now I am always loath to start talking about wheat, but I do know that we cannot consume all that we grow. The countries that are overrun in Europe import, annually according to the statistics, anywhere from 100,000,000 to 200,000,000 bushels of wheat—not from Canada but from the

world's markets. If they will not buy that quantity this year and if they do not get it off the world's market, then 100,000,000 or 200,000,000 bushels of wheat will go—where? It will go into competition with the surplus wheat that we are producing. Then what are we going to do about our surplus wheat? An export board could be charged with the responsibility of meeting that difficult situation.

The Americas are cereal producing countries. Australia is a cereal producing country. It will be difficult to find markets in that half of the world, and everything possible must be done to conserve the other markets. I wish to put on the record a quotation from one of the first parliamentarians in Great Britain, made in the British House of Commons, wherein he is reported as follows with regard to exports from Britain—and by that I am thinking of imports into Canada from the mother country, because Britain will lean upon us:

In this war we are fighting with our backs to the wall. Only by exporting and by fighting, and by exporting to enable us to fight and to go on fighting, shall Britain be able to win her way to safety and victory over the powers that threaten not merely the ideals we cherish but our very existence.

That statement was confirmed by Mr. A. M. Wiseman, Britain's senior trade commissioner to Canada, in a recent address in Ottawa in which he said that Britain's fourth arm of defence in modern warfare is her export trade. He pointed out that Britain was spending a large part of her war outlay for foodstuffs and that she must in turn export her own products in order that she may have the dollars wherewith to buy imports from Canada, wheat being an outstanding example.

I come now to revenue and expenditures. We are going to extract more from the Canadian people than ever before. The Canadian people are geared up to the idea of paying more. They are anxious to do all they can and will cheerfully do all they can. I have always said in days gone by that taxation should bear down more heavily on non-producers than on producers, and I am still of that opinion. But we must remember that those who are privileged to be non-producers, living off private incomes, are among the most patriotic of our people. A week ago last Sunday in the afternoon an elderly lady of some sixty years—I happen to be the executor of her father's estate—and she has a nice income—was sitting in my home and she said to me: "I have been to Alaska, to Australia; I have been around the world. I have lived in Muskoka in the summer and I go to Florida for the winter. But there is a war on and I want to do something on behalf of the war effort. I