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to tax those who remained at home, while it was sending hundreds of thousands to fight and bleed overseas. Throughout the whole of the war period expenditure grew more rapidly than revenue and increasing deficits were met by increasing borrowings, mortgaging more and more deeply the future of the country. This went on even after the war and demobilization period was over. In its last complete fiscal year of office, ended Mar. 31, 1921, the late Government not only raised in taxation the huge sum of \$368,770,498, but also added \$92,010,360 to the national debt - a process implying future taxation. In other words, if the astounding idea had entered their heads of balancing their current peace-time budget with current taxes they would have had to raise \$460,780,858 in taxation in 1921. Similarly in the fiscal year ended 1922, which, practically speaking, was the late Government's year also, they raised \$319,926,013 in taxation but also added \$81,256,817 to the national debt, thus requiring \$401,182,830 of taxes to balance the accounts of the year.

This ruinous and spendthrift course which had added in two short years of profound peace \$173,000,000 to the national debt (or more than half of the total pre-war net debt of Canada accumulated throughout our whole national existence prior to 1914) - had to be stopped at any cost. It was ruining our credit abroad (we had had to pay 7 p.c. for Government-guaranteed securities of the C.N.R. in the ~~summer~~ ^{winter} of 1921), and our currency was depreciated, a bye-word and a hissing, a humiliation to millions of Canadians who talked with their neighbours in the gate.

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