

ing on getting preposterous sums of money from the country. If the money were lying about the streets and the Government had nothing to do but pick it up, I could understand it; but these enormous sums have to be squeezed out of the working people of this country—and practically all our people are working people—and I think we should have some little consideration for them and not bestow all our consideration on the returned soldiers.

There is one item to which I desire to refer. It does not appear here as a separate item, but from the report of the proceedings in another place it appears that a considerable sum of money is to be practically contributed to the Imperial Treasury; it is to be paid to the men who enlisted in the Imperial Army. Why should Canada pay for those men?

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: "Men enlisted in Canada.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Is it not the duty of the British Government to do whatever is deemed necessary for them? Why should Canada, with her small population and comparatively small income, be called upon to contribute to the support of the Imperial forces? I think Canada has done remarkably well in raising over 400,000 men, paying their way across the ocean, and paying for their services at the front; and I think this further payment is highly objectionable. We should be a little businesslike, and I must say I do not think that in dealing with the returned soldiers the Government or Parliament has shown very much business capacity.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

THIRD READING.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Bill was read the third time and passed.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON MOTION FOR SECOND READING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENT THERETO.

The Senate resumed from the morning sitting this day the debate on Hon. Sir James Lougheed's motion for the second reading of Bill 26, an Act to amend the Canada Temperance Act; and the proposed amendment of Hon. W. B. Ross.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I should like to say a word or two upon the amendment of my honourable friend from Middleton (Hon. W. B. Ross) before it is submitted

Hon. Mr. POWER.

to the Chamber for determination. More than a generation ago the principle on which this Bill is founded was introduced and incorporated into a law which was placed upon the statute-book and is known as the Canada Temperance Act. Hence it cannot be said that the Government in introducing this Bill has submitted a new principle requiring the further consideration of the Parliament of Canada. The Canada Temperance Act has been amended from time to time. It has been in force, I think, in every province of the Dominion; and, while opinions may vary as to whether it has been successful or not, it has been retained upon the statute-book and is to-day the chief temperance legislation in this Dominion. A generation ago the desire for prohibition had not become as articulate as it is to-day. There has been a wonderful growth in the sentiment respecting prohibition. In the course of time progressive legislation has been passed by the Dominion Parliament and the legislatures of the various provinces along the lines followed in the Bill. At the time the Canada Temperance Act was passed it was not thought desirable to foist that legislation upon an entire province, but to apply it to counties, or groups of counties, or to the areas specified in the Act. As time went on and sentiment in favour of prohibition increased, we saw the propriety or wisdom of applying this legislation to larger districts or areas. Consequently to-day the different provinces of Canada have manifested a desire that, instead of the Canada Temperance Act applying to limited areas, as it does under the present law, it should be extended to the wider area of a province. So this legislation is not of a radical character, but is such as I think every intelligent man must necessarily approve. Instead of this law being in operation in counties or areas scattered throughout the Dominion, it is proposed to place upon the statute-book a measure which will provide that each province shall have the right to determine whether this legislation shall be enforced within its boundaries or not. That is all that is intended by this Bill. It contains nothing more radical than the provisions contained in the existing law.

Furthermore, honourable gentlemen, I would ask, is it possible for this Parliament, or any other, to stem the tidal wave which is sweeping over not only this Dominion but the entire world? It is not necessary for us to discuss here the question whether prohibition is necessary or not, or successful or not. There is the fact which cannot be overlooked, and which confronts