

the marketing of wheat. We know perfectly well that there is a tremendous surplus unsold, on hand, in the country. But when the new crop is reaped, in all probability there will be a much larger surplus than we have ever known. That surplus may play an important part in the world when the war ends. Starving Europe, even semi-starving Britain, may be glad of a goodly portion of it. But it is neither just nor fair to expect the men and women who have produced this valuable commodity to carry the load in the meantime. To my mind the government should take over grain from the farmers at a price which will enable them to live. No one is asking for a profit, least of all the western farmer; he is asking for simply enough to enable him to continue on an even keel. Give him that, and he will be satisfied. Give him that, and he will continue to produce the commodity which may be of vital importance to this country and the world in days to come.

I repeat on behalf of the group with which I am associated that we are prepared to assist the country in every possible way to bring to a successful conclusion the great struggle in which we are engaged. But we urge—nay, we demand—that in this struggle no one shall be permitted to amass great wealth; that there shall be equality of sacrifice, and that all profits, at least for the duration of the war, over and above a fixed amount required to give a reasonable and proper return, shall be taken for the prosecution of the war and the benefit of Canada.

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, the point of view my group takes will result in an exactly opposite attack from that just made by the hon. member for Rose-town-Biggar (Mr. Coldwell). The idea of increasing taxes is the idea of increasing poverty, and not the idea of increasing abundance. We, sir, are in an age of abundance; we are in a land of abundance; we are in a world of abundance; we are in the most glorious age the world has ever seen. All we need is to discover how to use what we have. Therefore nothing will be said by my group about increasing taxation, or about sharing poverty. There is enough and to spare for all, even if we are at war.

Having said that, may I turn to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ralston) and congratulate him sincerely—and he knows I speak sincerely. He took a very difficult job. He has made the best of a very bad job. He had to do his work under the restrictions, regulations and preconceived notions of a system which has made itself a stench and an abomination in the nostrils of the world. So I say he deserves

[Mr. Coldwell.]

great commendation for the success he has achieved in connection with what he has set out to do.

His budget is an excellent orthodox budget. Having said that for it, I have condemned it as much as I have praised it. This budget is one of scarcity, not of abundance. Therefore it is completely out of place in this age. It is a budget leading towards inflation and to adverse exchange. Hon. members in the group with which I am associated have been repeatedly accused of advocating inflation. On the absolute contrary we are the only group in the house advocating a policy which will prevent inflation, not only for the present but for all time. As I said, this budget will cause inflation. Every item in it will lead towards inflation, and I believe I can successfully prove my statement. It is a bottleneck budget. It is a budget which in this age is one of timidity, despair and defeat; for it puts money first, and regards money as a cause rather than an effect or a result. It looks down, not up.

It lacks vision. As the scripture says: "Where there is no vision the people perish." There must be new vision, even to fight a war.

May I draw the attention of hon. members to a great remark by a man who, I believe, has been one of the greatest to perform in this assembly; I refer to the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett. Speaking on January 31, 1938, as reported at page 47 of *Hansard*, the right hon. gentleman said:

I am convinced that there are methods which might be resorted to, even though they might be experiments, that are worthy of the consideration of the Canadian people; and I believe that if the government took a strong lead with respect to these, and commanded, as they would command, the support of men in every part of the house, they would be amazed at the results that would follow.

May I say that those words are as true to-day as they were when they were uttered, and they were prophetically true when they were uttered.

All progress has been due to the discovery and application of new principles and new laws. For example, when it was proposed that Britain should build iron ships, it is reported that men frequently greeted the proposal with such scornful expressions as this: "Iron, forsooth; why not stone, then, for ships?" There is just as much intelligence in that expression as there is in many of the expressions with which the new economics is greeted to-day. They were able to build iron ships because they had learned that if iron is put into a certain shape it will displace more than its weight of water. Immediately that principle was discovered and applied, the