

have been in any year that I have known, and I have been in that country for over forty years. It looks as if the crops in Saskatchewan and Alberta were gone, practically gone—or 75 per cent of them. And we are going on spending money at the rate of over twice as much as our revenue. To my mind we are in a dangerous position, and the Government does not seem to realize it and is not taking any action with regard to it. It is no use saying the appropriations are to provide employment. There is practically no unemployment to-day in Canada for men who will work. The unemployment is of men in the cities who are sitting around and will not work, and I do not think that we should run the country hopelessly into debt on that account. I just want to enter a general protest against the amount of money that the Government is spending. I believe it could have been cut down and should have been cut down. But the Government is putting it through, and the Government will have to take the responsibility for it. In my judgment, a great deal of it is absolutely unnecessary.

Hon. R. BLAIN: Honourable gentlemen, I am sure no member of this House will take much exception to many of the statements made by my honourable friend the leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Bostock) in respect to economy. For my part, I think that every member of this House is in favour of honest and economic administration. Listening to some remarks of my honourable friend, made a short time ago, I thought it worth while to turn up the Main Estimates to see whether or not they showed signs of extravagance such as my honourable friend from Assiniboia (Hon. Mr. Turriff) has spoken of this morning.

Turning to the public works section of the Main Estimates, I find that in Prince Edward Island, for example, there are fifteen items of expenditure presented by the Government, and out of the fifteen there is not one for any purpose except repairs—repair and reconstruction of wharves, where they have been damaged or carried away. There is not one proposal of expenditure in that whole province other than those which I have mentioned, and which expenditures are surely needed in order to maintain these properties.

Turning to the province of my honourable friend the leader of the Opposition, namely, British Columbia, I find that in the public works Estimates there are thirty-

two items. Twenty-four of those items are for repairs to existing wharves, etc. I did not hear my honourable friend point out what he really objected to in those thirty-two items of expenditure in his own province, and I am not going to ask him to do so.

What I have said applies also to the province of my honourable friend from Assiniboia (Hon. Mr. Turriff). In going over the Public Works branch of the Main Estimates, a copy of which I have in my hand, I find that with very few exceptions the expenditures proposed are for repairs to structures that were built many years ago. The other expenditures are special items. While the remarks of my honourable friend are to the point, and while we are all anxious to economize, I think I may say that the Main Estimates show a real sense of economy on the part of the Government.

These are the finishing days, I hope, for very large expenditures in Canada; and it is the duty of the Senate, as my honourable friend has pointed out—and we are all of the same opinion—to see to it that we are making wise expenditures so that the Canadian people will not have too many burdens to bear in the future. I do not think it is sounding the proper note to say that the people of Canada are an extravagant people. Surely there has been some economy in this country on the part of both governments and individuals. If there had not been some economy in Canada, when the domestic loans were floated the money would not have been forthcoming. While there has been perhaps some extravagance in Canada on the part of the people, surely it is to their credit that when this Government asked them for public loans, every loan was over-subscribed, showing that the people were economical and that they had confidence in the Administration of the day.

I do not wish to continue further. The remarks I have made apply to the other provinces as well as those I have mentioned. Therefore it is not quite correct to say that the Government is extravagant in nearly every way; but it is fair to say that in making out the Estimates for this year the Government have at least had an eye to the economical side of the account.

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

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