

Mr. RALSTON: When the hon. member is running a coal company he will have the opportunity of taking it out.

Mr. MacDONALD (Cape Breton): That is quite uncalled for, because I am trying to make a serious argument by saying that the bonus would remove a discrimination against our company as compared with other companies in Canada. If the tariff board were honest and sincere they would have said immediately this matter was brought before them; "We will not consider that at all; that has already been ruled upon by a tribunal having equal jurisdiction and power with us."

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member's time has elapsed.

Mr. BENNETT: An extension was given to the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Malcolm).

Mr. QUINN: They do not want to hear it.

Mr. ROBB: Perhaps the hon. member has been interrupted to such an extent that he might be given a little more time.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Speaker has not the power to extend the hon. gentleman's time.

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. member can finish it on the main motion.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the house is unanimously agreed to give the hon. member more time he may proceed.

Mr. HEAPS: I object to any extension of the forty minute rule. If we are going to extend it, let us do away with it altogether.

Mr. MacDONALD (Cape Breton): I appreciate the courtesy of the Minister of Finance, but I must accept the ruling of Your Honour.

Mr. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, will you call it six o'clock?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): If we are going to complete this debate we should continue.

Mr. JOHN EVANS (Rosetown): Each year the budget is looked upon as a barometer of the economic welfare of the Dominion. I think we can congratulate ourselves on the buoyancy of our revenue. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) is to be congratulated on the way expenditure has been met by income, leaving a surplus of nearly \$70,000,000 to apply towards the reduction of the national debt. But when we compare this with the net debt of the Dominion and the year's total estimated revenue of \$454-

942,000, and when we take into account the fact that much is made in the budget speech of the tremendous prosperity of the country, it leaves the ordinary man staggering with amazement at the awful extravagance and carefree attitude displayed by Canadians as a people with a debt of nearly \$2,300,000,000. Supposing the fiscal year 1928-29 had been a very poor year in trade, one can quite conceive that instead of the boasted optimism, something akin to gloom would have prevailed.

While the revenues of the fiscal year in a measure justify the boast of prosperity for which all governments take credit when they can, we should now at the end of this year analyse the statement of the Minister of Finance, particularly regarding the boasted prosperity. All classes have not shared in the prosperity boasted of, and while urban industries along with those in the carrying trade of the Dominion have been able to show surplus earnings, this has been largely due to the heavy crop of wheat and other cereals from which the farmer was left no better off than he was before. While this condition has been brought about very largely by the low quality of the wheat crop owing to the heavy frosts in August, agriculture is not and cannot be on a permanent basis until it is freed from the burden imposed upon it for the sake of urban industries, particularly in Quebec and Ontario. To speak frankly, the boasted prosperity of the budget is not the prosperity of a commonwealth, but the concentration of wealth by the capitalistic class who constantly seek increasing power from parliament to filch a large part of the worker's earnings by purchase penalties on what he eats and wears. These penalties are imposed and collected without, in many cases, any regard for equity as between the classes, or for businesslike procedure or even for the furnishing of revenue for the administration of affairs.

There is a boast, too, that customs revenues have increased this year by \$28,000,000. This to a country of 9,000,000 people should be a shame and not a boast, as it is mostly due to tariff levies on the necessities of life. We collected this year through tariffs the sum of \$185,000,000, or about \$21 from every person, or more than \$100 from every family. This is a tax that the poor pay as well as the rich. But let us remember that this is the average. The workingman with a family perhaps larger than the average pays the same per capita or accepts a lower standard of living. The situation is even worse than it seems to be by this calculation, because the class who