

I think this happens from mere thoughtlessness rather than anything else. I do not believe there is any intention on the part of individuals in any section of Canada to be selfish about the country's economic outlook. I think it arises from the fact that they have not all travelled throughout the country and do not understand the problems that exist in other sections. I ran into this example. It is only a small one, but it shows an attitude of mind. An officer in one of the services was canvassing the possibility of setting up in a particular city a service establishment. It had to do with storage and that kind of thing. He and some of his fellow officers suggested various cities, Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Ottawa, Windsor. One individual who happened to come from western Canada spoke up, "Did you ever think of Winnipeg, or Edmonton, or Saskatoon?" The officer in charge replied, "No; as a matter of fact I did not." It finally turned out that they established their base in a city in western Canada. But it had never occurred to them before that such an establishment might be set up there.

I have another example of the sort of thing which develops ill-feeling, quite unintentionally, I am sure. There may be a perfectly good explanation for it, but I point this out as an example of how there can be brought about misunderstanding which, with a little forethought and planning, could be avoided. There have been a great many construction projects in this country in the last few months. An extensive naval establishment is being erected in the province of Quebec at the present time. According to an answer that was made the other day in reply to a question I had put, this establishment at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, will cost \$2,624,000. Another large naval establishment is to be constructed in the city of Hamilton, but I have not the exact figures on that. So far as I know both these establishments are perfectly proper and may be required in those places. At the same time, we in the city of Saskatoon are proud of the fact that we have there a very able and effective recruiting establishment of the R.C.N.V.R. They carry on effective training and develop fine sailors.

May I digress for a moment to pay tribute to Lieutenant Commander Frank Campbell, the commander of the Canadian corvette that was destroyed in the Mediterranean a short while ago, who went down with his ship. He is a native of Saskatoon. I went to school with him and have known him for many years. He took all his naval training in Saskatoon, except for certain periods when he was allowed to go out to the coast. We have had many other outstanding gallant sailors who have come

[Mr. Bence.]

from our city. At the present time we badly require a new naval establishment, which will cost approximately \$100,000.

We were told in December by Captain E. R. Brock, who is in charge of the reserve divisions of the R.C.N.V.R., that on account of shortages of material and labour, there was no hope of anyone getting new construction. I give this as an example of the type of misunderstanding that may arise. Then we read in the newspapers of large sums of money, many times the comparatively small amount required for our establishment, being spent on constructions in other parts of the country, and we cannot understand why there is a lack of materials and labour for our part, while all this work is being carried on in other parts. I point that out only as an example. It does seem to me, and I offer this as a suggestion to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) that in order to make our reconstruction and social security measures work it is necessary to take advantage of the situation which has arisen to see to it that the war effort is spread across this country in such a way that we can have a balanced economy, and thus put the country in a proper position to carry out the necessary measures of reconstruction after the war is over.

I conclude by saying that I am convinced that the administration does not by any means discharge its full responsibility with respect to either reconstruction or social security simply by the setting up of these committees. The government of Canada was elected by the people of Canada to assume the responsibility of putting certain things into effect which the administration felt were for the good of the country, and it seems to me that the administration should do something positive as quickly as possible with respect to reconstruction and social security. I urge the government as strongly and as earnestly as I can to take advantage of the situation which has arisen to ensure that we have a balanced economy across Canada.

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, I have enjoyed greatly the remarks made by the various members who have contributed to this debate. I wish to thank the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) and to express my appreciation of his having in his introductory remarks left the field open for a wide discussion of the whole subject matter, an opportunity of which hon. members have availed themselves with, I believe, good results. I think we have had no debate more profitable than this one. People have had a chance to express their views.