

better distribution of wealth, much more general comfort, and lastly much less individual poverty than exists in the United States today. Unfortunately, the bright prospects that then existed in the United States were soon overclouded. They had in the first place what all of us will agree in regarding as a desolating civil war, and they had also what all will not agree in regarding as a still greater misfortune, a desolating tariff.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—No, we will not agree to that.

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Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—I am not going to raise the question of the tariff either, but I will simply say this, that in my judgment—and I have bestowed a good deal of attention on the subject whether it has been well directed or not—the United States did themselves a great injury by the introduction of their tariff. It was responsible for many evils, and notably because it divided labour and capital into two hostile camps, and has brought about, as all observers know, a state of things in the United States which borders on a potential industrial war, breaking out very often on very flimsy pretexts, and which in many respects threatens the prosperity of that country quite as much as do the European armaments which have done so much to hamper the progress of the peoples of that continent, a condition greatly to be deplored, and which, I may add, threatens their liberty too. Now I do not say that such a scheme as this will prevent these consequences, but I say it will go a good way to lessen them. Moreover, I say that this is suitable in a high degree to the temper of our people. I am not