

me. That is the feeling throughout the country. I say that these hon. gentlemen in coming out so strongly against the National Policy, in declaring that it has been of such great injury to the country, that it has hung like a blight over our industries and has retarded our prosperity and the growth of our population, are not representing the men who sent them here. And, if it be a fact, as has been stated on the other side of the House, that hon. gentlemen on this side are never going to come back for some of the votes they have given, I tell them that they will never succeed in assuming the reins of power in this country if they fight out their political battles on the lines they have during this session. I would like to draw the attention of hon. gentlemen very briefly to the condition of the agricultural classes. The hon. member for West Elgin (Mr. Casey), who spoke yesterday and to-day, and who assumed to be the special champion of the farmers; who stated that no person could tell him anything about farming; that what he did not know about farming was not worth knowing, first built up a case against the government and then knocked it all to pieces. He declared that there were parties coming to this parliament and that they were determined to have a change of tariff, so far as flour was concerned; and then he went on to show how great a grievance this would be, and he made out quite a case against the government for what they have never done. And he made a most astounding statement, which was, that the policy of the government during the Mackenzie regime was to tax the

luxuries and lighten the taxes upon the necessaries of life to as large an extent as possible, while, under the present government, he said, the policy was to tax the necessaries at the rate of about 50 per cent. and to let the luxuries go free. I never was more surprised at anything I have heard from hon. gentlemen opposite than I was at that. Let me call attention to what treatment and what sort of protection the farmers enjoyed under the Mackenzie regime:

Canadian Tariff, 1878.	American.
Wheat, free.....	20 per cent.
Rye and barley, free.....	15 cents per bushel.
Indian corn and oats, free....	10 cents per bushel.
Wheat flour, free.....	20 per cent.
Rye flour and cornmeal, free.	
Live animals, 10 per cent....	20 per cent.

Then, as to the luxuries—champagne, wine, whiskey, spirits, tobacco, cigars and so on, were all spared heavy duties, high taxation for the necessaries of life being put upon tea, coffee, sugar, quinine, coal oil, books for the blind, bibles when printed seven years, scientific books, and all books printed seven years. That is the way luxuries were taxed under hon. gentlemen opposite. The workingmen of this country, those who, as the last speaker stated, know how to appreciate a dollar when they earn it by hard toil, will duly appreciate the mode of taxing necessaries and luxuries respectively, by hon. gentlemen opposite, and when they pose as the special friends of the poor workingmen and the laboring classes, I can assure them that they are taking a position which is so manifestly inconsistent with their previous record, that they will make no political capital out of it notwithstanding their loud utterances. Now, I want to give just a few more facts, if the House will bear with