

	Old Tariff.	New Tariff.
Apples	40c. per brl.	30c. per brl.
Beans	15c. per bush.	11½c. per bush.
Buckwheat	10c. do	7½c. do
Pease	10c. do	7½c. do
Potatoes	15c. do	11½c. do
Rye	10c. do	7½c. do
Rye flour	50c. per brl.	37½c. per brl.
Hay	\$2.00 per ton.	\$1.50 per ton.
Barley	30c. per bush.	22½c. per bush.
Meats	2c. per lb.	1½c. per lb.
Corn meal	40c.	18½c.
Oats	10c. per bush.	7½c. per bush.
Oatmeal	20 p. c.	15 p. c.
Wheat	15	8

Now, I would like to ask the Canadian farmer what it means to him. In 1879 we put a duty of about one and a half cents a pound on meats, but we found that the lowering in values on the other side was so great that the Americans commenced to send their meat into Canada in increasing quantities, until in 1890, they sent in thirty-three million pounds of meat to feed Canadians. We asked the Government to increase the duty, we asked it for two or three years, and they finally put it up about ½ a cent a pound, in round figures, and what was the result? Inside of one year it shut out fourteen million pounds of meat. But if the Government reduce it half a cent a pound to-day, as they do under that new schedule, provided the Americans do, then it must come in again. I would like the farmers to understand this, because it will mean a very serious thing to them when this new schedule gets to work. Then take corn. Corn is free to-day, but there was a duty put on corn in 1878 because it was coming in in large quantities, it was lowering the price of the Canadian farmers' coarse grains, of the Canadian farmers' oats, barley and pease. These are the coarse grains raised, at least, in my part of the country. Where the farmers turn their attention to feed solely, they want cheap feed; but the most of them have not reached that stage yet, like my hon. friend from Huron (Mr. McMillan). They have not yet become feeders of cattle solely, they are farmers in the agricultural sense of the word, and they are making their money largely out of coarse grains. Now, I say that free corn to-day must seriously reduce the value of their grains. What will be the effect in the western counties of Ontario, in Essex, and Kent and Middlesex and Brant? What will be the effect where they raise so much corn? I see the hon. member (Mr. Campbell) who lives at West Toronto Junction, dissents. Does he think that it will be all right? I think he has severed his connection with that part of the country, but if he is not interested in free corn, I would like to ask his farmer friends if they like it. When they only sold their corn for 19 and 20 cents this year, do they want to have free corn coming in from the other side?

Mr. CAMPBELL. Corn is two or three cents higher now.

Mr. SPROULE.

Mr. SPROULE. It may be at the present time, but what has been the ruling price for the year? The farmers around Owen Sound know that at certain seasons of the year, during navigation Americans can bring in corn from Chicago for one or one and a half cents per bushel, at low freight rates. And when you can bring it in for a cent a bushel, it comes directly into competition with the peas of the farmers of Canada. There is no doubt of it. Peas are worth 40 cents per bushel there to-day, corn is worth 24 to 26 cents in Chicago, and can be laid down at 25¼ cents in Owen Sound during the season of navigation, if the freightage happen to be the same this year as in past years. If you can buy fifty-six pounds of corn for 25 cents, will you be likely to pay 40 cents for sixty pounds of peas? No, Sir; the hon. member for Huron would not do that, because he is feeding for the money he can get out of it; therefore, he is going to buy corn from the western United States farmers. That is going to take the place of the peas and the oats, and the barley, of the Canadian farmer. There is no doubt about it. I saw it done years ago in my own village, and it will be done again. There is no doubt that when the farmers come to see the operation of this tariff, and to feel its effects, they will not agree with the hon. gentlemen that it is to their advantage that they should have free corn. Then we are told that it is not going to be made free when used by distillers. Now, if they keep the duty on corn to the distillers, what will happen. The seedsmen in our country import corn and sell it to the farmers, and when they have a lot of it on hand, they will turn around and sell it to the distillers. What is to hinder them selling it to the distillers? Under the old system which allowed corn to be brought in free for seed, a declaration is made by the seedsmen in Toronto that the corn is to be used as seed, and the retail seedsmen sells them for that purpose, but when they have any left over it is sold for feed. And if it can be sold to the farmers for feed, what is to prevent them selling it to distillers? I have seen it brought in and come into competition with our own grain as food for the stock of the country, because the seedsmen brought it in and sold it for seed, and the farmers then turned round and used it for food. Now, what is to hinder the distillers getting their corn free in the same way? The farmers will have corn free, and the distillers as well. That corn-growing country in the west, where so many farmers live, will they be pleased? I do not think they will. I am quite sure they will not be pleased, therefore I say that does not satisfy our requirements. But this tariff will have serious effects in other ways. There was a barb wire factory shut down; there was a woolen factory in Perth closed down a few days ago, and another closed up in Peterboro,