

Dominion, and notably in British Columbia, where the miners are up in arms because of the fact that foreigners are coming from the United States, and taking their bread out of their mouths—and yet this government sits silent in the face of these things. Another thing was pointed out by that deputation. That deputation said they were in favour of the Bill of the Postmaster General (Mr. Mulock), which declared that there should be on government works, the current rate of wages paid. Surely the deputation must have been misled. I have not heard of the Bill. Has any member of this House heard of it? I have heard of a resolution which was moved in this House, and I have heard of the amendment moved by my hon. friend from West Assiniboia (Mr. Davin), which amendment proposed that the spirit of that resolution should be crystallized into a Bill. I had heard also that the government objected to it, and would not allow that resolution to pass. Sir, it is the same old game, as the game of the alien labour law. We are in the face of an election campaign, and hon. gentlemen opposite desire to catch the votes of the labour men of Canada upon a sham resolution passed by this House. I see that my hon. friend the Minister of Customs, was speaking at Brantford the other day. I have his speech here as reported in the *Toronto Globe*, and I see that he said there :

They had enacted that in all public works there should be a clause in the contract that the contractor should pay for the labour he engaged at the current rate of wages in that section of the country.

The hon. gentleman was speaking to the labour men in the city of Brantford. I tell him they had not enacted it. I tell him that an enactment of this House is a law of this House; but a resolution of this House may be broken as was that famous resolution moved a little while ago in the legislature of Ontario by a member of the provincial government that no civil servant should hereafter take part in election campaigns, while he turned and winked to the civil service, 'Go on and do your best;' and they did their best in every part of the province of Ontario in the election campaigns. Another word, Sir. I think it was in 1876, when labour was at a very low ebb in this country, when the industries were silent, that a deputation of labour men came and waited on the government here. Their families were in want; there is no question about that. Goods were coming here, manufactured by American and other foreign artisans, while our artisans were without employment, and their families in some instances, without bread. They sent a deputation here, and what did the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Sir Richard Cartwright) say about that deputation? He said they were a raging mob, not many of whom appeared to be hungry, but a great many of whom

appeared to be drunk. I say that is an insult to the labouring classes of Canada which they will resent when they get the opportunity. The right hon. First Minister smiles. To him it is a joke, but it was not such a joke to the men who were out of employment and out of bread.

The hon. Minister of Customs in his speech on the budget asked, what is the evidence that industries came into Canada under the national policy? I have some figures under my hand, which show as nothing else can the measure of the industries of this country, the quantities of certain raw materials used largely in the industries of the country, imported in 1878 and in 1896 respectively :

	1878.	1896.
Crude rubber.....lbs.	458,000	1,716,925
Cotton..... "	8,000,000	40,000,000
Sugar tons.	9,000,000	117,815,000
Bituminous coal..... "	292,387	3,299,025

The production of bituminous coal in our own country was : In 1879, 1,126,497 tons ; and in 1896, 3,745,716 tons. The differences in working into finished articles the importation and production of the raw materials imported is the measure of the increased labour given to Canadian artisans in that period.

Now, I want to say a word or two as to the prosperity of Canada. I am prepared to admit at once that Canada is prosperous. Every gentleman on this side of the House, not only admits it, but is glad of it. We not only know that Canada is prosperous, but we know to what that prosperity is due. It is due to the policy which the Conservative party maintained for years in spite of the attacks of hon. gentlemen opposite. But these hon. gentlemen claim a great deal of credit for the prosperity of the country. As an evidence of what good luck, as the Minister of Trade and Commerce calls it, they have had, I want to show what a fortunate time they have struck as regards one particular matter—the total mineral production of Canada. They will not claim that their policy has had anything to do with that. In 1896, 1898, 1899, the total mineral production of Canada was :

In 1896.....	\$22,584,513
In 1898.....	38,661,000
In 1899.....	47,225,000

This was entirely independent of and uninfluenced by the policy of hon. gentlemen opposite. Another thing which has given them a great harvest has been the mining companies which were registered in England, and the capital of which was raised there and brought to Canada. In 1896 there were fourteen of these companies registered in England, in 1897 forty-three, in 1898 thirty-one, and in 1899 nine. They had got on to the management of the Yukon in the meantime. In these companies, according to one of the London journals, no