

were leaving this country in droves, driven away by the nefarious policy of the Conservative Government of the time. The honourable gentleman from Mille Îles (Hon. Mr. David) and the honourable gentleman from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Béique) remember that very well. They said: "Why don't we have factories in Canada?" They started what they called the Parti National—the national party, and that name has now been adopted, for we have the National Liberal and Conservative party. One might write books and books about free trade and protection; everybody has his own opinion on that question; but the fact remains that if the honourable gentlemen on the other side think so much of protection they must think very highly of the people of the province of Québec who started this policy, the support of industry. It was started in Montreal, and the first man who established a large cotton mill there was Victor Hudon. He was regarded as a visionary in establishing that large factory when cotton was grown in the South. The Hudon Cotton Mills are now part of the Dominion textile plant. But there are two kinds of protection; there is good protection and bad protection. We are in favour of good protection, the Laurier protection, whereby everyone becomes rich. That is the protection we believe in.

Let us take the Canadian Pacific railway as the financial barometer of this country. What did we find when our old friends the Tories, with their protection, were in power away back, we will say, in 1893? We are all referring back to those days; perhaps it is because we are growing old. At what was C.P.R. stock selling then? At 35. But in June 1896 a change came over this country; the sun of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's administration shone upon the land, and there followed a period of glorious prosperity. The C.P.R. stock rose with the rest, and within just a few years after Sir Wilfrid Laurier came to power it was up to 100, and by 1904 it had reached 175; then it passed 200 and went as high as 250, and was on its way to 300. That is what happened under the régime of Sir Wilfrid Laurier—under a régime of protection as I understand it, that is, the protection of industries that deserve to be protected. I went once to Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the purpose of obtaining from him protection for a certain industry in the province of Québec. He said: "No; that industry has antiquated machinery; it is not well equipped; it has not sufficient

capital. I will not protect an industry like that. Let them secure capital and instal good, modern machinery. Then let them come to me and I will give them good protection. But I cannot do so until they make those improvements." Then there is such a thing as prohibitive protection; that is to say, protection may be so high as to prohibit altogether the importation of certain articles, and the country receives absolutely no revenue from that high tariff: the manufacturer reaps the whole benefit, making the people pay 25, 30, 40, or 50 per cent more than they ought. That is what may be called bad protection. But the Laurier protection, the Fielding tariff, that is what makes for the prosperity of the country.

What happened after the change of Government in 1911? It is strange, but it is true, that after 1911 immigration began to decline. People did not want to come to this country. Immigration had decreased considerably by 1913, and the C.P.R. stock commenced to tumble down. Where is C.P.R. stock to-day? Why, it is tumbling like the Government majority, and it is now reduced by 50 per cent or more.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: Will my honourable friend tell me—?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Will the honourable gentlemen please allow me to proceed?

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: How long before—?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: Honourable gentlemen, I would like to proceed. I will not be long, and then the honourable gentleman from Halifax can speak for hours if he wishes.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: I shall be able to deal with you when you take your seat; so that is just as good.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: I promise my honourable friend I will not be long.

I heard the honourable leader of the Government (Hon. Sir James Lougheed) yesterday deprecate very much the adverse balance of trade and commerce between the United States and Canada. I heard him state that it was deplorable that we were buying over \$900,000,000 worth from them while they were buying from us five hundred and some odd million dollars' worth; that each day we in Canada actually took one million good Canadian dollars, each worth 100 cents here, and carried them over to the United States, where we received only 88 cents' worth for them.