

a good Conservative of Simcoe County, Mr. D. Quinlan, of Barrie. He says reciprocity will be a good thing for hogs and sheep, lambs and barley. As to apples, he says, Canadian apples are of better quality, and will command a ready market in the United States always and against United States' competition, if the duty of 25c. per bushel is removed. Reciprocity will help the market gardeners and fruit growers. These industries in the past 25 years have increased their sales in the face of high duties to the amount of seventy million dollars. With the duty removed it is certain that there will be a great and profitable increase of trade in these lines. To show how high duty kills trade and destroys profit for the farmer, it might again be mentioned, that Canadian, and principally Ontario farmers, in 17 years of high duty, lost 90 millions of dollars on barley alone. It is impracticable to enter into all the details, but every true farmer knows the value of the United States' market.

#### United States' Prices Higher.

We are told that the prices for farm produce is higher in Ontario than the United States. Every farmer who has his eyes open knows this is not the case. Mr. Kohler, M.P., for Haldimand, made a careful comparative study of United States and Canadian prices for several years for certain live stock. In the case of lambs, the Toronto market for the months of October, November and December in 1904, averaged \$4.62 and the Buffalo market, \$6.25. In the same month for 1909, the average price of lambs in the Toronto market was \$6.05 and in Buffalo market, \$7.50. In the matter of butchers' cattle, taking the average prices for the same months in the respective markets, the average price for 1904 in Toronto was \$4.50 and the Buffalo market average was \$5.70. In 1909 the average price of butcher's cattle in the Toronto market for the last three months of the year was \$4.62 and the average price in the Buffalo market, \$6.12. A similar difference in prices in favour of the Buffalo market applies to calves also. The same general difference prevails in the other years and other months of all the years. Mr. Kohler is a large dealer in cattle and knows whereof he speaks and most of you know from common knowledge, or what others

have told you, that what he says is correct. To show how a high duty has affected the cattle trade, as it has affected the barley trade, Mr. Kohler tells of the slump in the cattle trade that followed the high duties of the Dingley tariff. In 1879, 32 years ago, Canada shipped to Buffalo for local consumption and distribution in the United States, 79,164 head of cattle, in 1898, 71,131 head, and in 1910, exports had fallen to 26,441 head. This trade, the removal of duty by reciprocity will restore, to the advantage of the farmer. In the matter of hay, Mr. Kohler made enquiries as to the contract prices at the stock yards in Toronto and Buffalo.

The average price in Toronto stock yards last year was \$13.61, and last year the average price of hay in Buffalo stock yards was \$18.00—a difference of over \$4.00.

Will not the removal of \$4.00 a ton duty on hay, which gives the Ontario farmer access to a \$4.00-a-ton better market, be an advantage worth getting? To illustrate the advantage under the agreement take what would be gained by the removal of duty on what an average farmer might have for sale each year. This would be—

- 8 two-year steers and heifers at \$6.00 to \$10.00 each.
- 10 lambs, saving the duty, at 75c. each.
- 5 sheep, saving the duty, at \$1.50 each.
- 30 hogs, saving the duty, at \$1.50 each.
- 300 lbs. turkeys, saving the duty, at 5c. a lb.
- 15. tons hay, saving the duty at \$4.00 per ton.
- 300 bushels barley at a greatly advanced price, besides higher prices for all dairy products.

Buffalo is selected for comparison with Toronto, because it is easily accessible to Ontario, and a great distributing centre for the Eastern United States. Figures carefully collected (Hansard), Feb. 28th, 1911, col. 4531, show the same advantage of Buffalo prices over Montreal in the matter of live stock. These differences may not prevail over all the two countries at one time but as a general rule prices for these and farm and orchard products generally are higher in the United States than in Canada.