

growing in my district. We were able this year, though for the first time in our history, to break into the American market; and this will probably answer the question in some degree of my hon. friend who made a query a few minutes ago. We were able this year for the first time, owing to a set of circumstances which perhaps may never occur again, to dispose of some portion of our crop in the state of New York. The reasons for that were these: In the first place New York, which the previous year had produced more than double the amount of apples that was grown in the combined states of Washington and Oregon, this last season found itself, comparatively speaking, without a crop at all. The second reason was that while Washington and Oregon had large crops they were unable, owing to lack of transportation facilities, to place their apples on the market at the proper season; and the third reason was the difference in exchange which was sufficient to offset the duty levied upon our apples when exported to the United States. But despite that fact, although we were able to dispose of some of our apples just as soon as the car shortage was overcome in Washington and Oregon, the United States market was flooded with apples from those states, and when I left I think there were two or three hundred cars of apples stored in New York, waiting for sale and the returns came in very slowly indeed. Under those circumstances, I think I am justified in directing the attention of my Progressive friends to a section of the country where the people cannot, by any stretch of imagination, give countenance to the desire which seems to animate our friends for a sweeping revision of the tariff downward. In regard to the reciprocity agreement with the United States of America, admitting foodstuffs from that country free, or in regard to the removal of the dumping clause, which gives us another measure of protection, we have rather an example of the irony of fate.

Of course during my election campaign I naturally made as strong a point as I was able, speaking to the fruit-growing section, of the advantages which they received under this protective tariff and under the provisions of the dumping clause. I endeavoured to point out how fatal it would be to their interests if any party who would sweep away these measures of protection were to come into power. My opponent, a person whom I held in high esteem, pooh-poohed such an idea, and said

[Mr. MacKelvie.]

it was a bug-bear. He said "If our party come into office, we never will remove the dumping clause or reduce the tariff on fruit." Here is where the irony of fate comes in. As soon as the Liberal party was returned to power, and the danger became apparent to my opponent and his friends that this tariff would be reduced or the dumping clause removed, my Liberal opponent and his chief executive, the president of the association in Yale, came down to Ottawa and used all their power to keep in effect and in force the very policy introduced and maintained by the present leader of the Opposition when he was Prime Minister of this country. I do not intend to pursue the discussion of this portion of the tariff at any length at present. We will, no doubt, have a full-dress discussion on it later on in the session when the Budget is presented.

I desire to make reference to another section of the Speech from the Throne, and in this connection I prophesy, the members surrounding me here will find themselves very much in accord with the views expressed by my friends to my left. That is in connection with the railway situation in this country. I was particularly impressed, in fact I was rather delighted, with the very frank manner in which that question was dealt with by the hon. member for North Winnipeg (Mr. McMurray) who presented the resolution for the adoption of the Address. He designated the railway situation in these terms: "It is an emaciated foundling left on the doorstep of the Government which preceded this one." And I thought that characterization was a true one. Time has developed certain changes, but not very many, with regard to the railway situation since that foundling was laid on the doorstep of the Government. It has, perhaps, not developed into a very sturdy stripling so far, but it gives signs of growth, and healthy growth. Its future development, of course, is now in other hands, and the orphan has passed under new guardianship. Its future development will depend, of course, very largely upon the treatment which it receives from this guardian during its term of adolescence. If it be given a reasonable measure of assistance and subsistence, such as it requires, I, for one, have not any great doubt or apprehension that in time it will develop into a very healthy and flourishing offspring of this country. If, on the other hand, it is denied subsistence, if it is given