

lend them money to complete their undertaking. This large investment in the Canadian cement industry is threatened because the Finance Minister says: You have help enough and you can live under present conditions. The Minister of Finance sets himself up as an oracle and he tells the cement people that 60 per cent duty—that is what he said it was—was enough. Well, the duty is 12½ cents per 100 pounds and at 350 pounds in the barrel it amounts to 50 cents per barrel. Let me give a brief history of the Canadian cement industry since it started five years ago. At that time the ordinary Portland cement—not as good as our own Canadian cement to-day—retailed in the city of Brantford at from \$3 to \$3.50 per barrel. To-day that cement, or better cement, can be bought for one-half the price or at from \$1.75 to \$2 per barrel. The Canadian cement industry has reduced the price to the farmers and large consumers of cement almost by one-half, and at the same time it is giving employment to a large number of skilled hands. It has shown great enterprise in the introduction of the most modern machinery to be found in the world and today the quality of Canadian cement is second to none. And what has the Minister of Finance done for this industry? He announced to-day that he will place a duty of 25 per cent upon each empty bag which cost 10 cents. He gives the cement industry a duty of 2½ cents on each empty bag. Now, these bags are returnable and the handlers of cement are either going to lose 2½ cents or they will fail to return the bag. I wonder which of these the Minister of Finance wants them to do. This great stroke of policy on the part of the Finance Minister may be a slight help to cement manufacturers, but if so, it will be at the expense of the handlers of cement. I myself handled American cement before the industry was established in this country, and I know that it was the invariable rule of the trade to return the bags, so that the cement was delivered at no cost for the package, but if it comes from a foreign country in barrels, the barrels cost 35 or 40 cents, the cement is no better and the barrel is useless afterwards. Hence it is that cement is sent in bags. These cement bags will be of no use hereafter if the Minister of Finance does not allow their return, and therefore the proposition which he makes to-day will afford no relief. But there are other important industries which are suffering for want of protection. I have mentioned the cutlery industry which is now wiped out. I have told him that there are two binder twine factories in my own city trembling in the balance, and I have pointed out that several other industries are feeling the pinch of the times.

A pottery industry that flourished in Brantford forty years ago and that has been carried on there unremittingly ever since until this year, is closed up and for sale.

● Mr. COCKSHUTT.

There is another industry that stretched forth its hands to this government. Representatives of that industry came down at the same time as those of the cutlery industry and laid before the hon. Minister of Finance their plea. He turned a deaf ear with the result that that factory has been closed up. The hon. Minister of Finance does not appear to have returned yet and my time is getting short, but I must lay before the House a list of the factories that have gone down within my own knowledge in my own neighbourhood since the Minister of Finance took the seat he now occupies. I give him this list from the city of Brantford. I am not going to say that they are all due to the tariff. I do not think they are, but I say that many of them might have been saved if the government had done its duty. There were two pork factories. Most of the stock in one of these pork factories was held by 4,000 farmers who owned 4,000 shares of the capital of \$250,000. They employed about 100 hands. This industry was wiped out in two years. There was also a pork factory carried on by private enterprise which went down at the same time thus showing that co-operation and private enterprise have equally failed to keep alive these industries. So, we find that \$300,000 capital and 150 hands employed in these two pork factories have gone since the hon. Minister of Finance came in. A cotton mill, which at the time the hon. Minister of Finance took his seat employed 200 hands and was turning out a large amount of goods and shipping to almost all the markets of the world, has been for five or six years nailed up, not a wheel turned, not a door opened, not a single pane of glass to let you look in and see what is inside. There is an industry employing 275 hands and perhaps representing an investment of \$150,000 or \$200,000 of capital wiped out. A bicycle factory employing about 275 hands and paying the highest wages almost of any industry in Brantford has also been wiped out, a bicycle supply concern closed up and gone away, a cutlery works closed up and out of business, and a pottery closed up and out of business. There you have about eight large factories representing about \$1,000,000 of capital closed up and about 1,000 hands thrown out of employment in the city of Brantford alone since the hon. Minister of Finance took his office. Now, you may say that Brantford must be a pretty poor place. I want to repeat what I said at the outset that it is the third manufacturing centre as far as exports are concerned to the markets of the world and in spite of the policy of hon. gentlemen opposite, in spite of the vain efforts of these hon. gentlemen to squeeze them out, there are industries established in Brantford that even the hostile efforts of the hon. Minister of Finance have failed to crush out. In the speech from which I quoted a few moments ago, made by Mr. Heyd in 1902, he read to