

*The Address—Mr. Chaplin (Lincoln)*

employed is "eggs" not "fresh eggs." Whoever said anything about "fresh" eggs? I have the tariff here and is there anything in it about "fresh" eggs? Not a word.

An hon. MEMBER: Break them gently.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): Yes, break them gently. I do not care whether these eggs are fresh or not. If they come into this country and are consumed here they displace Canadian eggs. The minister says "Oh, what is the use of talking about Chinese eggs. They never come into this country. They will not come in because people will not use them."

Mr. ROBB: No.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): I beg the minister's pardon.

Mr. ROBB: My hon. friend wants to be fair, I did not say "Chinese eggs."

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): No, you did not, you said Australian eggs. You said that Australian eggs could not come into this market because of the long voyage. Is not the same remark true of Chinese eggs? Whether it is Chinese eggs or Australian eggs it is only a matter of the duration of the voyage. But the minister said "You cannot sell Australian eggs here, they will be stale before they get to Canada." But the facts are that some Chinese eggs did come to this country and not in small quantities either. Hon. gentlemen will be surprised to know that during the last eight months 755,000 pounds of Chinese eggs that were broken and frozen were brought in and consumed by the people who use eggs of that kind for baking. I say that every one of those eggs displaced one of our own eggs. That is one reason why a duty should be imposed upon these products that will protect the home market for our own people.

I have one or two more comments to make on the speech of the minister. As reported at page 823 of Hansard he tells us "The number of eggs and the amount of butter coming in from Australia will not hurt us; it will not do us any harm; only a million pounds came in in one month." It took us a whole year to ship 700,000 pounds to Belgium and we boasted a lot about it. On the other hand we imported a million pounds from Australia in one month and the government do not say very much about that. "It is not going to hurt us very much; it is only coming in in the winter time," they say. Let me tell the minister that the importations of butter are coming in when we should have the highest price possible for the Canadian article.

[Mr. J. D. Chaplin.]

Mr. STEWART (West Edmonton): Will the hon. gentleman permit a question. Has he looked at to-day's quotations for Canadian butter in Canada?

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): No, I have not seen to-day's quotations.

Mr. STEWART (West Edmonton): In spite of all the complaints hon. gentlemen opposite have been making, the price of butter is higher to-day in Canada than in any of the competing countries.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): Will the hon. gentleman tell me what the price is?

Mr. ROBB: I will quote from the Montreal Gazette of February 12; it is my authority for the statement. It quoted No. 1 pasteurized butter at 44½ cents a pound, and it gave the price in New York for the same quality of butter at 44 cents; so that it was half a cent higher in Montreal than in New York.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): I am very glad to hear that because I was going to say that I heard the minister say something about that, and he gave the date as January 13.

Mr. ROBB: I will pass this over to my hon. friend.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): I have more than I want now.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Just wait.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): On January 13, the minister told this House the same thing. I took the trouble to look up the Montreal Trade Bulletin, which paper, I am led to believe, amongst the trade, is an authority on prices. I examined the issues of that paper covering a period of seven weeks in the library here. The minister said that the price of Canadian butter was approximately as low in New York as it was in Montreal. Let me quote the figures which I found in this journal which anybody can read. On December 24 the price in New York for their second grade of butter, not their extra grade creamery, but the grade of butter that scores 92 under their method, was 48 to 48½ cents a pound. In Montreal No. 1 pasteurized creamery butter, which I am told by the head of the Dairy and Cold Storage branch of the Department of Agriculture grades higher than the butter which I am quoting in New York, is 41½ to 42 cents. On December 31, the next week—this is a weekly paper—the same class of New York butter is quoted at 49 and 50 cents, and in Montreal it is quoted at 41½ to 42. On January 8, the price in New York for that