

list at the present juncture in Canada's history. Manufactured food should bear its just quota of customs taxation as, for example, canned fruits, canned vegetables, and so on. Let me ask the hon. member for Brome if he would go down to the city of Montreal to the proprietors of the William Clark Company, Limited, packers of meat products, and say to them: "If you cannot put up your products as cheaply as they can be put up in Chicago or Kansas City, you must close your shop." I venture to say that even the hon. member for Brome would not take that stand. I certainly would not. Therefore, I cannot consistently vote for his amendment; I shall have to vote against it.

Having said this much regarding the present situation, may I make a few suggestions as to what I consider an adequate tariff. I think the tariff should be framed along the following lines: A commodity manufactured in Canada should be placed in the hands of the consuming public at a price a little more than will give the manufacturer a reasonable return on the capital invested. For instance, if a textile is manufactured in England and placed on the English market on the basis of \$1, and the like commodity is manufactured in Canada, it should be sold to the consuming public in this country on the basis of not more than \$1.20. Why do I say that? For this reason: Pre-war days demonstrated to us that a textile could be manufactured in the United Kingdom at considerably less cost than it could be manufactured in Canada. There are many reasons why this can be done. First of all, the investment in machinery is not so great in the United Kingdom as in Canada, and machinery is part of the capital and ought to bear its interest. In the second place, the Canadian manufacturer caters to a population of eight million people, whereas the manufacturer in the United Kingdom caters to the world and can specialize and make a line of goods at considerably less cost than the Canadian manufacturer who is attempting to manufacture a variety of lines. This was true in pre-war days, at all events, but I noticed a statement recently that labour is pretty nearly as high now in the United Kingdom as in Canada. The conditions therefore may change in that regard, but I say that the tariff on manufactured articles should be based on facts as they exist to-day, and it should be so based that the manufacturer can get a fair return on his money, and no more.

[Mr. Loggie.]

That is to say, you should not by a tax place him or a corporation in a position to get undue prices from the consumers of the country. I would suggest, also, that all raw materials should enter Canada without duty. In order to develop our mineral resources, our iron and ore deposits, I would favour a graduated bounty rather than an indirect tax so that the consuming public would not necessarily have to pay undue indirect taxes on commodities made from iron and steel. We would not be going far afield if we paid special attention to the development of our iron and steel industry. This war has brought to our attention in a marked way the great possibilities of a self-reliant country, and my opinion is that any country that aims at real greatness must be as far as possible self-reliant. If we are able to develop our iron and steel industry we shall to that extent be more or less self-reliant, and we should have that object in view in considering the tariff.

If my suggestions were put into practice I might naturally be asked, what about the revenue? I had great pleasure in listening to the address of the Minister of Finance this afternoon and he unquestionably scored the amendment of the hon. member for Brome (Mr. McMaster). If a tariff is put into effect along the lines I have suggested the revenue will be \$50,000,000 less than we are getting under the present tariff. I am convinced that the ad valorem rates on many commodities under the present tariff are entirely too high. But hon. gentlemen will not forget that the general tariff we have is to all intents and purposes the Fielding tariff of 1897. It was to a small extent remodeled in 1907 and again in 1914—remodeled, in my judgment, not too wisely. I must say that some of the items that went through in 1914 were not in the interests of the country as a whole. But the point I make is this: If we frame a tariff and reduce the cost of living and we are short \$50,000,000, how are we to get the money? If you will refer to the imports in 1918 you will find that we imported into Canada about \$860,000,000 worth of goods, and if we framed an adequate tariff on the basis I have indicated—and by adequate I mean in the interests of manufacturers and consumers alike—I would add a surtax of, say, 2 per cent on the \$800,000,000 and would get \$16,000,000 thereby. But I would still be short \$34,000,000, and to raise that balance I would do this. I find by the Canada Year Book of 1918 that we manufactured in Canada \$1,381,547,225 worth of products. I would put on an ex-