

still have been done to Australia under the Treaty. But such a provision has not been made.

The farmers of Alberta are having a hard time getting along at present, and their difficulties are largely owing to the tariff. In Alberta there was a profitable business done in shipping hay, for example to Pacific coast points; but, because there was not sufficient duty upon the coarser grains, the product of the State of Washington was shipped by boat to Vancouver and Victoria, and had an advantage there, over Alberta hay because the American producers did not have the long mountain haul which confronted the farmers of Alberta. In that way they were able to undermine the business carried on by the Alberta farmers. A few years ago we sold our rough cattle, our stockers, on the Chicago market; to-day the duty shuts us out of that market.

Now the Government say we will sacrifice still further the farmers of Alberta by encouraging competition in the few things that they have left from which to make a bare living; we will open the home market to the farmers of Australia, who can raise their stock for half what it costs us to raise ours, and who can produce their butter at a minimum cost when we are producing at a maximum cost. To what extent this will affect the dairying industry and the stock-raising industry I am not prepared to say, but I am certain that the effect will be very detrimental. For one thing, it will discourage mixed farming—dairying and stock-raising—in that Province, and I presume it will have a similar effect throughout the Dominion of Canada. I notice that in the Province of Ontario to-day there is not the production of dairy products that there was a few years ago. The farmers need encouragement rather than discouragement; they need advantages rather than disadvantages. It does seem to me, honourable gentlemen, that we are sacrificing the farming interests of this country for the benefit of a few capitalists who may find a market for \$7,500,000 worth of paper and pulp. Are we going to sacrifice the markets of all the farmers of this Dominion, amounting to about \$300,000,000 in dairy products alone, and hundreds of millions in stock, simply to give a few capitalists another market for their paper and pulp?

It does seem to me that we are taking an unfair advantage of the farmers of this country, in exposing them to an unfair competition. For these reasons and others that I could mention, and which will probably be enumerated by other honourable gentlemen, I do not see how I can support this Treaty

as it stands. It seems to me that the benefits under it are not at all commensurate with the disadvantages that will accrue to the country.

Hon. R. H. POPE: Honourable gentlemen, we have said over and over again in this House, and it has been repeated from year to year since I came here, and I presume the same is true of the years before that, that the Government of the day does not give us an opportunity of studying the important measures when they come to us from the other House at the close of the Session. If that is true of ordinary Bills, and it has been true, it is more than true of this one, which will affect the majority of the producing people of Canada. This Treaty can have no other effect than a detrimental one upon the great farming community of this country. I care not whether they be east or west, there is not a clause, not a word, in this Treaty that is in favour of our great agricultural community.

Some of us have found fault because a Progressive Party or a Farmers' Party was organized; but when I see how little consideration is given by either House of Parliament to the most important of all the industries of Canada, I am not surprised or disappointed that there has sprung up in this country a third party in the political field, misguided though it may be. The neglect of the welfare of the farming community by the old parties, both Liberal and Conservative, is responsible for the division that has taken place. I resent most emphatically the idea that it is possible for a Government to bring before us in the last two days of the Session—and not only before us, but before the public and the business men of Canada—a Treaty which it knew of last October and which was prepared months and months ago. It is almost inconceivable that such a thing should be possible in what we call a constitutionally-governed country, and that the people should be asked to have confidence in any Administration that would direct such a blow at the country life of Canada. Honourable gentlemen have stood up in this House and in another place on this and on previous occasions, and have stated, and we have read in the press and in the magazines of the country, that something must be done to keep the farmers' sons upon the farm, to bring immigrants to this country and place them upon the land. And to think that almost in the same breath, without public notice, in a cowardly manner—

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Order.

Hon. Mr. POPE: —the Government dare present such a measure as this against the