

and the Liberal party misrepresented? The Prime Minister and other ministers of the Government and honourable members opposite go into the cities and say: "The Farmers are going to give you absolute free trade, no protection at all; and the Liberals are going to do the same." Then they go out into the country and they tell the country audience: "The Liberals are not going to lower the tariff; they are going to maintain it exactly as it was before." There is always a good deal of jockeying for position. When a party is in opposition, it may say a good many things it is not prepared to carry out when in power. But the Government is in a position not a whit different from that of the Liberals. The Farmers have never been in power in the Dominion. The present Government did not carry out its promises any better than did the old Liberal Government when it came in. Both parties are in the same position. The members of the Government side-step and misrepresent their opponents just as much as did the Liberals and more than the Farmers.

My honourable friend the Prime Minister says the country is not clamouring for an election. You know, members of this House are apt to get a little out of touch with the people. I have been here only a couple of years and I have noticed that a little myself. So there is a good deal of excuse for the honourable leader of this House (Hon. Sir James Lougheed), who has been here so long. In his speech he stated that we must have high protection and nothing else is thinkable. Let me say to my honourable friend that if either he or I went to our respective provinces and made such a speech on the tariff as he made, and if we had to depend upon the votes of the settlers for election, there would be only one or two places in either province where we would have one chance in a hundred of ever again warming a seat in this House. My honourable friend is not keeping his ear close to the ground. That is natural, I suppose. If he had kept his ear close to the ground, he would have heard that there had been an election in East Elgin. What did we notice there? That although the vote against the Government was divided into two parts by the Liberal and the Farmers candidates, with policies very much alike, still the Farmers came out away ahead. That indicates to me that the farmers of Ontario are going to stand by their party. Honourable gentlemen opposite

may congratulate themselves that the Farmers are trying to offset a breaking up. But do not make any mistake. You will learn before very long whether they are breaking up or not. That election indicated another thing. In the town of Aylmer, the largest town in the constituency, in spite of the Farmers' vote, the Liberal candidate, who opposed the tariff platform and program as announced by the Prime Minister, received more votes than did the Government candidate. So my honourable friend ought to keep his ear more closely to the ground.

We heard also of an election in Peterborough the other day. What was the result? Somewhat similar. The Farmers' candidate, although defeated, received more votes in all the country polls than the other four candidates together. That shows that the Farmers are working in unison. And again in the town the Liberal candidate received more votes than the Conservative candidate. I am not worrying about whether there is to be an election soon or not. The honourable leader said that the Government will eventually go to the country. It will go to the country soon. He says there is no clamour for an election. There is no clamour on the side of a Government that had three years ago a majority of over 70 and whose majority is now down to about 25. He will not have to wait very long, at the same ratio of loss, until the Government will have to go to the country. But whether they go immediately or not, I claim that the Farmers will stand pretty well together; that they will stand on a platform good for the country; that there will be in it no menace to the country or no danger in any respect. Can any honourable gentleman here point to a single instance in which Premier Drury of Ontario has passed class legislation? I never met Mr. Drury until the other night when he delivered an address here at the Board of Trade annual banquet; and I want to say this, that, with all my respect for the eloquence of the right honourable leader of the Government, and all my respect for the eloquence of the honourable leader of the Opposition, it would in my judgment have puzzled either of those honourable gentlemen to make a finer or abler speech, or one with less partyism in it, or one on a higher level, than the speech that was made by Hon. Mr. Drury here within the last two weeks. There would be no danger to the country if the Farmers should have a say in the next Government. There would be no class