

rushed there and brought a large amount of money into that country. Altogether the industries of the country have been developing. At the start, hon. gentlemen opposite opposed every one of them. Every manufacturer we were told was a high-handed robber. Protection was making the rich richer and the poor poorer. To oppose it was the policy of the Liberal party. I am glad they have seen the error of their ways, and I hope they will do better in the future. In doing so they will have my support so far as that is concerned. Whenever they do anything that is right I will support them ; when they do not I will oppose them. My hon. friend from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain) referred to the manufacturers of cotton and the Montreal Cotton Co. Who started that enterprise? Why, the Conservative party. We did not expect hon. gentlemen to obstruct everything when they came into power, although they said they would do it. It was not reasonable or right that they should do it. I congratulate the country on the fact that hon. gentlemen have seen the error of their ways when in opposition, and are now trying to do the best they can to promote the prosperity of the country. What would have been the result if hon. gentlemen had not continued the policy of their predecessors? Ruination and bankruptcy would have prevailed in Canada to-day had the policy of the Reform party been carried out when they attained power. What was the condition of things when the Conservative party was in power? There was a very intelligent and able party in opposition—a very creditable party to Canada. Sir Richard Cartwright, David Mills, who has been lauded so highly to-day, Laurier, Blake, Mackenzie—all those eminent men denounced in unmeasured terms the National Policy, and described what they would do with it when they attained power. They said there would not be a vestige of protection left in Canada. What could the manufacturers say to that? They dared not put up a building, or put in new machinery because they feared if the Grits got into power they would introduce free trade and ruin their industries. The merchant said he dare not fill his shelves with stock, because if the free trade party got into power, they would ruin trade by a change of policy. They did not

get into power on their trade policy, however, but on the school question. That was the condition of things that existed before the change of government. No man dared branch out in business or do anything that might sustain an injury by a change in the tariff policy. The moment the manufacturers saw that the new government were not going to enforce their free trade policy, but were obliged to continue the policy of the Conservative party, they said: 'Now we are all right, we know what the policy is. The new government have endorsed the policy of their predecessors, and their predecessors will not oppose it, and we can go on and enlarge our business—we can put in new machinery and manufacture not only for Canada but for the world.' The merchants said 'we can import goods because the duty is not going to be reduced,' and the man who wanted to buy those things would not hang off for another year expecting to buy at a lower rate. People had confidence in the established policy of the country, and that is where prosperity begins. Show me one measure that the present government has introduced? They have tinkered with preferential trade and it is only tinkering; but show me one thing they have done since they came into power and I will acknowledge I am wrong. The National Policy was there; they have just gone on and developed it. The Secretary of State said his party had left their prejudices behind them after they came into power, and they have continued the policy of their predecessors which they found was all right after eighteen years of violent opposition to it. Where would the North-west Territories be to-day, if the policy of hon. gentlemen had been carried out? There has been one hundred million bushels of grain, oats and wheat produced in that country this year. The principal point of my speech to-day is that we are capable, even under less favourable circumstances, of producing magnificent crops in that country, and we want the government to take steps to see that proper facilities are given for storing and handling our grain; that a like condition of things does not exist next year such as we have experienced this year, and that the farmer who brings his grain twenty-five or thirty miles to market should not have to pay hotel bills for days before