

they have been treated by their votes on the 21st of September last. Speaking of the prairie provinces, the right hon. gentleman said that they were growers of wheat, and herders of cattle. It is true that the people in many parts of the prairie provinces are growers of wheat and herders of cattle. But they also aspire, along with the people of eastern Canada, to have their own industries, and their own home markets for the sale of the products of their farms. In the province of Manitoba there are many farmers, farmers who have prospered without the suggested benefits of reciprocity. And let me say to the right hon. gentleman that those three prairie provinces are so prosperous that they are attracting not only thousands but tens of thousands of agriculturists from the United States, who desire to have a share in the prosperity of Canadians.

It has been said that the election was not carried by economic reasons against reciprocity. Now let me say that the people of Manitoba thoroughly understood the situation regarding reciprocity. The right hon. gentleman said that the people were looking to the American market, because there was probably a difference of 8 to 12 cents a bushel in the price of wheat in favour of the United States market. But the people of Manitoba kept in mind the message of the President of the United States, when transmitting to the Senate in response to resolutions the report of the Tariff Board relative to prices of the various commodities named in the proposed reciprocity treaty. That report was carefully prepared by experts, and showed the conditions of farm production in the United States and Canada, the market prices in the two countries, and as to wheat, shows that of the Minneapolis prices one-half were more and one-half were less than six cents above the Winnipeg prices. Let me say further that in the report that was issued by the Minneapolis Board of Trade the statement was made after investigation that the difference in the price of wheat between Minneapolis and Winnipeg was about 5 cents, and that the prices in Winnipeg and Chicago were practically the same. The President of the United States is a gentleman whom we all respect, and greatly admire, because he is interested as President in doing all he possibly can for his country. When members of the present administration were invited to go to Washington and talk the matter over with the President, he then had a far better understanding of the situation than they had. One reason stated by the President why the price in Minneapolis was a little higher than the price in Winnipeg, was the local conditions, because the Minneapolis mills

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had a capacity to grind about thirty-three per cent more grain than they could get from the country immediately surrounding them. The farmers of Manitoba knew perfectly well that just as soon as that deficiency was supplied in the Minneapolis market down would go the price of grain in the Minneapolis market, and it would remain the same in the city of Winnipeg and in Fort William.

They understood, further, another thing in respect to an expression that was used by the right hon. gentleman opposite.

The men in the prairie provinces are growers of wheat and herders of cattle. . . Men were looking for the American market. . . The Canadian cattle grower has now no other market than the British market.

That the Canadian cattle grower in the eastern provinces has a splendid home market, which means increased prices for the farmer's commodities and an increased price for his land. There are farmers, at all events in Ontario, concerning whom I know something, who are exceedingly prosperous, and we hope and prefer to think that there will be home markets established in the western part of Canada which will make conditions in western Canada the same as in eastern Canada. The farmers in western Canada hope to have that home market in which they can sell their produce without having to send it to the United States. The President of the United States also made a statement which appeared in an address that was made by him in Chicago, Ill., in June last:

The world price of these four cereals is fixed abroad, where the surplus from the producing countries is disposed of, and is little affected by the place from which the supply is derived.

He also states that:

A very material benefit to all the farmers of the country, especially stock and cattle raisers and the dairy farmers, will be the by-products of bran and shorts from the flour mills likely to follow the free export of wheat from Canada to those mills.

He also states in the same speech that the United States exports to Canada fifteen times as much meat as Canada exports to the United States.

The farmers in western Canada, particularly in Manitoba, desire that the by-products of the wheat, the bran and shorts, should remain in Manitoba so that they can be used by the farmers, that the mills where they grind the wheat should be in western Canada so that the benefits to be derived therefrom may be enjoyed by the people of that country. They also desire that their cattle should be fed at home in order that the statement made by the President of the United States