

an excellent market for Canadian manufactured leather, thanks to the protection that the Government has extended to these leather manufactories. We have great encouragement for boot and shoe manufactories. It is well known that during several years considerable efforts were made to promote the manufacture of leather in Canada, and you know, Sir, what great difficulties were met with. Protection, that has been granted by the Government, was wanting. To-day those boot and shoe manufactories are progressing rapidly, and increasing daily in numbers. That is a well-known fact that no one can question. Paper manufactories are also progressing and working on a large scale. Agricultural implements, such as shovels, spades, axes, mowing machines, and all other kinds of agricultural implements, are also manufactured in great numbers. Last summer the manufacturers of the articles I have just mentioned, could not furnish half the demands. I know a manufacturer who could not fill the orders he received; and I heard a manufacturer say that he could have sold 800 mowing machines over and above those he had manufactured. Is that a proof that the business of the country is decreasing because this manufacturer missed the sale of 800 mowing machines, worth from \$60.00 to \$80.00 each? The National Policy has been severely criticised, but it is less spoken of than a year ago. I notice that silence is pretty generally observed on this subject. Hon. gentlemen limited themselves to emigrants going to the United States, but they have not repeated this year what they said last year, to wit: that the National Policy was raising the price of articles of consumption in Canada. Well, after having looked over the tariff, and comparing the prices of articles of consumption, I see that it is precisely the articles upon which the heaviest duties were imposed that we are now buying at the lowest prices. I will take, for example, axes, upon which a duty of 35 per cent. was imposed, and I am in a position to prove that they are sold cheaper to-day than three years ago. I will take hats, upon which a duty of 30 per cent. was put, I can show that since the adoption of the National Policy we have in the country three manufactories of hats that we had not before; and I can, moreover, prove that hats are selling cheaper to-day than three years ago. I can also speak of cotton goods manufactured in Canada; and although the tariff has been raised about thirty-five per cent, I am in a position to state that cotton goods are selling in Canada, proportionately speaking, cheaper than in other countries; and the quality of cotton goods manufactured in Canada can compare with the cotton goods of any other country. The cotton goods manufactured in Canada is of better quality than the cotton-wares that used to be brought from Europe, and can compare favorably with the cotton goods manufactured in the United States. I might mention a great many other articles upon which a duty of thirty to thirty-five per cent. was imposed and that are now selling cheaper than when there was a duty of seventeen and a half per cent. put on them. One day I was speaking in public, in one of the parishes of my county, and a man who works in iron said to me: "With your National Policy you make me pay very dear for my iron; iron that we used to buy last year at \$2 per one hundred pounds is now selling at \$3.00; and that is on account of your National Policy." But I took the Tariff, and showed him that the duty on iron had only been raised about four and a half per cent. on one hundred pounds, and yet iron had gone up \$1. I met the same person later, when iron had gone down \$1, and I asked him if the National Policy had the result of putting up and putting down the price of iron. Of course, there will be fluctuations in the market; to-day iron may be very dear, to-morrow it will be cheaper, and we must not conclude that every increase in price is due to the National Policy. Well, Sir, all the agricultural implements that are made in Canada, and that are employed in this country for the cultivation of the land, the duty on all these implements

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was raised from seventeen and a half to thirty-five per cent., and yet the farmers who need them do not pay any dearer for them; on the contrary, as I have just stated, they are bought cheaper from the fact that they are made in Canada. If you go into a store, Mr. Speaker, you will see that on the shelves and on the counter, more than half of the goods—I am speaking of a general store—are manufactured in Canada. Before the adoption of the present tariff, before the adoption of the National Policy, there were on the counters American cottons, American shirtings, blankets imported from Europe, tweeds imported from Europe. To-day you can hardly find a piece of bleached cotton imported from Europe or the United States. All the cotton goods sold in Canada are for the greater part manufactured in the country. And after that, Sir, they tell us that the National Policy is driving people away from Canada; that emigration is on the increase; that the National Policy is ruining the country. How can that be explained? I would say to hon. gentlemen opposite make haste and speak of the emigrants that are going to the United States, for you will not be able to speak of them long advantageously; soon you will be obliged to speak of them no more, because we are drawing near to the end of this great emigration to the United States. As I said in the beginning, once the tide has set in it is difficult to stop it, but the National Policy is calculated to put an end to this tide of emigration. The increase in the manufactures of the country, the wages of the workmen that have increased from 75 to 100 per cent. within the last two or three years, and the settlement of the lands in the North-West, will impede the tide of emigration, for the Company that we have just entrusted with the building of the Pacific Railway will open up a splendid market for Canadian manufactures. We will soon see this tide of emigration setting in towards the North-West, and we will then have the outlet that hon. gentlemen were so anxious about when we adopted the National Policy. We have often been reproached with striving to glut the market. Well, we are going to open up a market for the surplus of Canadian manufactures. The opening of the lands of the North-West to settlement will draw a great number of immigrants from Europe. On reaching the North-West, the first thing these immigrants want is to procure the most necessary articles for furnishing their houses; they want a stove, they want cooking utensils, all these articles are manufactured in the country, and the National Policy will prevent the inhabitants of the North-West from purchasing them from the United States; so much the more so, that they will be able to get them cheaper here. The settlers in the North-West will require agricultural implements; they will need ploughs; they will need reapers and mowing machines, threshing machines; and these articles, where will they get them? They will come and purchase them in the older Provinces of Canada. Then we will see emigration cease; then the young people of Canada will find profitable employment in our home manufactures and will cease to go away. The heads of families will not be obliged to leave the country to go and earn money wherewith to pay their debts contracted during the hard times; times will have become better, and the fathers of families will not be tempted to change their position. Sir, I say that times will be better, but they are already better. What do we see in the country places as well as in the towns? We see the proof that times are much better, and I will show that such is the case from the fact that the money lenders, the usurers who were ruining the rural population, who were lending money at twenty, twenty-five and thirty per cent.—these money lenders, who have been the cause of a great many people going to the United States; these lenders of money at twenty-five and thirty per cent., cannot lend to-day at even eight per cent., money having become easier. The farmer can, therefore, sell his produce with more advantage. And if the farmers were, to-day, consulted and asked what difference there is between the prices they can