

The Conservative majority in the House of Commons voted this motion down, the Liberals voting for it.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

These are all specific declarations on the part of the Liberal party tending to free food to the people and thus to lower the cost of living. In addition to these specific resolutions on foods we have two which are cognate and which tend in the same direction, one moved by Mr. W. E. Knowles, M. P. for Moose Jaw, Sask. on March 11th, 1914, to remove the duties on agricultural implements and the other, a motion of the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier on April 23rd, 1914, to place wheat and wheat products and agricultural implements on the free list, both of which were rejected by the Conservative members of Parliament.

BLAST FURNACE SLAG

There is also a motion by the late Hon H. R. Emmerson, moved on February 10th, 1914, stating :

"That under Article 372 of the Customs Tariff of Canada, 1907, blast furnace slag is on the free list, but that the Board of Customs, at a meeting held on the 9th day of September, A.D. 1913, improperly and illegally declared the same to be dutiable under tariff item 663 and in effect from the 9th of November, 1913, without such declaration being, as appears, approved by the Minister of Customs as required by Statute and that the Department of Customs in now subjecting the same to duty is violating the Statute to the great injustice and loss of the farming community."

Showing that here the Liberals objected to this high-handed proceeding on the part of the Customs Department and the removal of this impediment to the farmers which raises the cost of production on their food products. The price of agricultural implement being raised by the tariff also materially interferes with the cost of production of food products among the farmers of Canada and consequently tends to accentuate the high cost of living. We see thus that the Liberal party has deliberately and emphatically in general and in detail declared itself in favor of the removal of the impediments of duty on food products and thereby reducing the cost of production of food in Canada.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's policy in his motion of April 23rd, 1914, also confirmed that steps should be taken to alleviate the high cost of living by a straight removal of taxation.

Again on the 16th of March, 1915, Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved as follows :—

"That Mr. Speaker do not now leave the Chair, but that it be resolved :