

made to us by manufacturers in relation to the tariff was based not so much on the tariff rates as what was said to be an evasion of these duties. In many cases, manufacturers frankly admitted that the measure of protection contained in the tariff was reasonable. But they claimed that the benefits which they might reasonably expect to derive from it were destroyed by an illegitimate competition, sometimes called "slaughtering" or "dumping." I am not sure that this slaughtering has existed in every case in which it has been alleged. But evidence has accumulated to satisfy us that to a considerable extent it exists. Manufacturers in foreign countries—especially in high tariff countries—secure control of their own market, and then seek to gain control of ours. To do this they sell goods in Canada at prices much below the ordinary price at home. Here was a condition calling for serious consideration. The selling of these goods at dumping prices makes for cheapness. A free trader who has regard for the theory only may say: "Why need we complain of this condition? Is it not to our advantage to have cheap goods?" I answer, Yes; if we could only rely on their being furnished permanently or even for a long time, at these cheap rates. With such an assurance, we could afford to let some of our industries close down, turn the people employed in them into other lines, and reap the advantage of cheap goods. But how long would this condition last? Does anybody suppose that the foreign trust which thus seeks to control the Canadian market does so with any benevolent intention? Do we not know that the object is to gain control of our market, break down the Canadian industries, and then, when there is no longer competition, put up the price at its own sweet will? Surely anyone can see that this would be the inevitable result. Why, then, should we stand idly by, see our industries closed up, for the sake of a temporary cheapness, which we know would be quickly followed by permanent high prices? What gain would it be to Canada to have her industries closed up under such circumstances? We have thought that this is one of the new conditions which call for new measures, and we propose to provide a remedy just to the extent to which the evil exists. In some of the cases in which dumping has been alleged, it may be found that it is not real—that the goods are sold in the way of fair and legitimate competition. In such cases there is no need of any interference. But in any case in which the dumping is established, we have provided a remedy in the form of a special duty. (Applause.) Some of our opponents have been pleased to say that this clause is not effective, that it cannot be worked, that it will be evaded, &c. I think I am justified in saying that this is not the view held by the people who have been engaged in the dumping business. They have already realized what the clause means, and that they will have to govern themselves accordingly. We have provided a remedy which we believe will be practicable. I have no doubt