

I should like to revert for a few moments to the tariff question and to say that our manufacturing friends will have to adjust their business similarly to the adjustment the farmers have had to make in view of the conditions with which they have been faced. We have heard a great deal about the farmers adopting a system of mixed farming and they have been warned not to put all their eggs into one basket. Now, just to quote a few statistics from the province of Alberta, we find that while the total value of dairy products in 1905 amounted to only \$1,000,000, in 1924 the value had grown to \$22,928,750; and that whereas in 1905 the product of 13 creameries reached a total of 813,000 pounds in 1924 there was an output of 21,500,000 pounds from 89 creameries. Of cheese 13 factories in 1915 produced 381,832 pounds, and in 1924 the output of the same number of factories had increased to 1,675,000 pounds. Our export of butter in 1922 amounted to 1,000,000 pounds, while in 1924 it had increased to 4,100,000 pounds. Therefore it cannot be said that the farmers in the west are not adapting themselves to the changed condition which has arisen. On the other hand we find that our manufacturing friends, instead of trying to meet those changed conditions, are coming whining to parliament year after year and asking for more protection. We find that while the manufacturers believe in protection on what they have to sell they are really free traders themselves when it comes to what they have to buy. Last year I met several gentlemen representing manufacturing concerns engaged in the steel business. They were complaining about conditions in their industry and in conversation with them I found they were buying most of their steel in the United States. I asked them why they were doing this and they said because they could buy cheaper there. I said "I presume it is good business to buy wherever you can buy the cheapest?" and they answered "Certainly". Then I said "If it is good business for you to do that why is it not equally good business for the farmer?" We find, as I say, that while these gentlemen are protectionists where the other fellow is concerned they are looking for advantages of all kinds for themselves. I placed a question on the order paper a few days ago and I find from the answer to it that while these gentlemen advocate protection for their own industries they receive in drawbacks practically one-tenth of the whole amount of duty collected by this country. I was always under the impression that this drawback was only paid on goods manufactured

in Canada for export, I was surprised to find that there is a very large amount of drawback paid on raw materials imported into this country and manufactured here for home consumption.

At this late hour I do not wish to delay the House any longer except to say this: I think that if we are ever going to have prosperity in Canada greater attention will have to be paid to the basic industries of this country. Personally I will be willing at all times to give my support to any government that will carry out a policy of that kind.

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Temiscouata): I should like to speak in French, in my own language, on rising to make my maiden speech, but I shall defer doing so until another occasion because I have certain views to express in the interests of my own constituency and wish to be clearly understood by every hon. member. I have been represented in certain quarters as an independent Liberal. Both words are synonymous and this is a case where the less is included in the greater. Ever since my boyhood I have been an ardent admirer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier who, in his immortal lecture on Liberalism in Quebec, declared that Liberalism was derived from two words—liberty and liberality. I shall always remember what Sir Wilfrid Laurier said and shall act accordingly. He was one of the greatest men in the Liberal party in Canada, and, for many years, one of the greatest statesmen in the British Empire. I am glad to pay this compliment to the right hon. the Prime Minister: He was faithful and true to Sir Wilfrid Laurier when, on an occasion which everybody remembers, others who had proclaimed themselves his friends had deserted him. As a newly elected member I wish to express my gratitude to the members of the government, to every hon. member of this House—including hon. gentlemen opposite—for their courtesy to me; and I think that my colleagues who were introduced with me at the beginning of the session share my views on this point. I wish not only to thank my fellow members but also the officers and employees of every department of the House for helping us in our work.

My county is a very large one, the population being about 50,000. It is one of the largest rural constituencies of the province of Quebec, and as my election took place only two months before the opening of the session I should like to put on Hansard an important resolution which was adopted at a meeting of the county council of my constituency: