

vinces there were no less than 100,000 automobiles. If we value them at, say \$1,000 apiece, we would have \$100,000,000 invested in automobiles.

I do not think the provinces that can invest \$100,000,000 in automobiles should grumble very much in post-war days at paying a few dollars duty on agricultural implements, when we have in Canada a population of 8,000,000 and a debt of two billion dollars. Suppose we take the hon. member at his word and wipe out all this duty and raise by direct taxation the \$170,000,000 that we now raise by the tariff. I am interested more in the workingman than anybody else, and what would that mean for the workingmen of this country? It would mean \$21 per head, and taking the average family as five—husband, wife and three children—you would have a tax of \$105 per family per year. Do you think such a tax should be placed on the workingmen of this country? I do not. Furthermore, when you take into account those who cannot pay, how large a tax would you have to impose on the people who could pay?

Suppose you put a tax on farm lands. The farm lands of Canada are valued at about \$4,000,000,000. It would mean that we would have to impose a tax of 4½ per cent on farm values, which on a farm worth \$5,000, which is the average price set by the Soldier Settlement Board, would mean an annual tax of \$225 on every farm. Are our friends willing to pay that?

We have to have a policy in this country that will develop all our resources, so that we may stand as a unit before the world. While agriculture is the basic industry in Canada, it is not everything. I have in my hand statistics for 1919 of agricultural and manufacturing valuations. First, take agriculture. I find that the capital invested in land was \$2,792,229,000; buildings, \$927,548,000; implements, \$387,079,000; and live stock, \$1,102,261,000—or a total of \$5,209,117,000. The total agricultural production that year was \$1,546,541,000. It is something we should be proud of and should encourage in every possible way, but is not the only thing. Let me remind the House that 85 per cent of the production of our farms is consumed in Canada. Let us now look at the other side. The capital invested in the manufacturing plants of this country was as follows: Land, buildings and fixtures, \$705,926,161; machinery and tools, \$868,422,191; materials on hand, stocks in process, etc., \$692,242,994; cash, trade and operation account, \$520,058,381; or a

[Mr. McGibbon.]

total of \$2,786,649,727. Production was no less than \$3,015,577,940, making a grand total of over \$5,802,000,000. So there is not so very great difference between the two after all. Last year the manufacturers had in their employ 692,067 persons, and they paid out in wages, \$553,301,675. Taking the agricultural population of this country as 40 per cent of the whole, and figuring out the male population, we see that there are not very many more people engaged in agriculture than in the manufacturing industries of this country.

I do not want to be misunderstood. I am in favour of doing everything that can be done to promote the great basic industry of agriculture in this country. I agree with the hon. member for Marquette that we have as yet only touched the fringe. We have over a billion 400 million acres of land in this country, over 30 per cent of which is supposed to be arable, and we have under cultivation only the comparatively small area of 53,000,000 acres. I should like to see the whole available area under cultivation, and our western provinces filled with population of the right kind. This question of population is one of the big problems before this country. I have said before in this House that I believed if we took down the barriers and allowed people to come into this country we could double our population in a few years. I noticed the other day that the New York Herald stated that in the lifetime of people now living in Canada we would have a population of 50,000,000, and I do not think that estimate will be very much out. I have given these figures to show the importance of these twin industries, as I might call them, and in the hope that we may look at these things from a broad standpoint, rather than from the standpoint of how any particular section or province will be affected. Let us consider the matter in a broad way and without regard to the effect our decision may have on our political future.

I want to refer for a moment to the Franchise Act. The member for Marquette said we must have an honest franchise and honest machinery to operate it. So say we all, but he spoiled it by saying a few moments afterwards that he would give to Germans in Canada who had German brothers or other relatives fighting against us at the front the right to help determine the destinies of Canada even in the midst of a war. I want to register my most emphatic protest against any such proceeding. I am told by those who know that if the fran-