

National Policy was to bring about the creation of a combine in respect of the manufacture of glass in Canada; this combine purchased the factory in New Glasgow and closed it down, and the doors have never been opened since. Before 1878 there was a large and prosperous business in the county of Pictou known as the Logan Cannery, which had carried on very successfully. It had paid dividends to its shareholders, for whom it proved to be a very profitable investment. But in 1885, five years after the National Policy got into full swing, it had to close its doors. It went into bankruptcy and took down with it in the crash the Pictou Bank, which had been a most useful and valuable financial institution in that part of Nova Scotia. There were, prior to the date which I mention, very prosperous industrial establishments of different kinds throughout Nova Scotia. In nearly every village and hamlet there was a thriving tannery, employing a few men, manufacturing leather which was sold in the markets at a profitable price. Within five or six years, or ten years at most, every one of these tanneries had closed down and no tannery is to be found in the province of Nova Scotia to-day from one end of it to the other. That is how the National Policy operated in the province of Nova Scotia, and it is not to be wondered at that the feeling in favour of protection in that province is not very strong.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Will my hon. friend explain how the National Policy affected the tanneries? Hides are on the free list; there is no tariff against them.

Mr. KYTE: It created a combine, which squeezed the life blood out of every small tannery in Nova Scotia. Of course the hon. gentleman knows that, but he wants to hear me tell it to the House.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: How could there be a combine under the free trade which the tanneries had in regard to hides?

Mr. KYTE: We did not have free trade; we had high protection at that time. As I stated a few moments ago, they squeezed the life blood out of every tannery and no others have arisen out of the ashes since.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: There is no tariff on hides.

Mr. KYTE: No tariff on hides, but the capital that was invested in the tanneries in those days was lost and no one has since had courage enough to invest his money in another enterprise of that kind, lest the blighting in-

[Mr. Kyte.]

fluence of protection should once more overtake them.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Was it not the need of a tariff that was the cause of all those conditions?

Mr. GRAHAM: But what about leather?

Mr. KYTE: There is only one kind of leather the hon. member for South Oxford (Mr. Sutherland) is interested in, and that is pigskin.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is the hon. gentleman opposing the protection of coal brought down in this budget?

Mr. KYTE: My right hon. friend will hear from me on coal if he waits for a few moments. That is what I am here for.

Mr. GRAHAM: They are getting nervous, George.

Mr. KYTE: It contributes to the gaiety of the evening. Mr. Speaker, during the time the late government was in office, from 1911 to 1921, they appear to have put the soft pedal on protection. From time to time there were statements made by responsible members of that government to the effect that the time had come for a revision of the tariff, and the suggestion was never made that the revision was to be upwards; it was always to be downwards. Well, in 1920, when the present member for West York (Sir Henry Drayton) was Finance Minister, in the debate upon the budget the right hon. leader of the opposition spoke these words:

So I say we cannot have any immoderate or high tariff for the reason, first, that it tends to exclude that healthy element of fair conditions, namely, foreign competition.

I think it was the hon. member for West York, speaking on the budget the other day, who deplored the fact that we were getting goods from foreign countries. He said there were \$700,000,000 of goods being brought in here from foreign countries that ought to be excluded; but his leader in 1920 says, "You cannot have a high tariff because it tends to exclude that healthy element of fair conditions, namely foreign competition."

Mr. MEIGHEN: Who asks now for a prohibitory tariff?

Mr. KYTE: The hon. member for West York did in his speech on the budget.

Mr. McMASTER: Mr. Speaker, we are losing in this corner of the chamber the benefit of these gems of interjection. If the hon. gentleman would kindly speak louder—