

the right honourable gentleman (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) will be able to answer certain questions which have arisen in my mind.

Canadian wheat is granted a preference of six cents per bushel. Of course this does not mean that our producers should expect an increase in price of six cents a bushel, because there is in the convention a statement which binds the producers of wheat to sell in Great Britain at the world's market price. Our producers may get a preference when entering the British market, but the price would be the same as would be obtained from a sale to other countries. If Russian wheat is debarred under the dumping clause from entering the British market, it will still be a considerable factor in establishing the world price, and consequently the Liverpool price, for our wheat. I do not even see how the British wheat grower will be able to receive any advantage over outsiders, although he is protected up to six cents, because I am quite sure that the milling interests in Great Britain will see to it that the price they pay is that of the world market. Our advantage will be that of receiving a preference for whatever quantity of wheat the British market can absorb, but, as I say, the price will have to be the same as we could get elsewhere. When we think of the huge crop of wheat that we have had this year we realize that Great Britain is not able to absorb a very large part of our supply. However, we shall have the advantage of preference over outside competitors unless they are willing to make a sacrifice and absorb the amount of the duty.

Our dealings with Great Britain should not result in increasing the price of wheat to the British consumers. I have heard it said more than once that there are twelve million people in England who just manage to keep body and soul together, and I sympathize with them in their demand for cheap bread. I have seen the slums of Glasgow and of other cities in Scotland and England, and I know something about the conditions that exist there. A year or so ago I saw a despatch from Glasgow stating that the municipality had in force a regulation by which the price of the 4-pound loaf was automatically fixed according to the price of wheat. The despatch went on to say that during the preceding eighteen months the cost of the loaf had been gradually reduced by from one to five cents because of the arrival of two large cargoes of Russian wheat in that city. It is important that we should not seek any favour that would result in raising the price of wheat on the British market—that we should content ourselves with the preferences given by the treaty.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.

Honourable members, we are now attempting to bring about the importation from countries in the British Commonwealth of goods that we formerly have been importing from other countries. If we could accomplish nothing more than that it would not go very far towards increasing our prosperity, but we are hoping for a larger exchange of goods. I am thinking of the effect that these agreements will have upon our trade as a whole, for if we discontinue purchasing goods from countries from which we have been buying up to the present time they will certainly demand a readjustment of our trade relations with them. I have before me a table showing the growth of our business from 1922 to 1929 with thirteen countries with which we have most-favoured-nation relations. I will read the table:

	1922	1929
Argentina.. . . .	\$ 3,233,520	\$14,493,798
Belgium.. . . .	12,419,251	27,451,064
Columbia.. . . .	127,820	1,801,880
Denmark.. . . .	2,243,861	5,983,897
France.. . . .	8,248,438	16,243,747
Italy.. . . .	15,340,430	23,038,832
Japan.. . . .	14,877,168	42,106,953
Netherlands.. . .	9,592,938	44,465,864
Norway.. . . .	3,914,231	7,437,128
Spain.. . . .	848,495	5,704,260
Sweden.. . . .	1,221,018	4,796,490
Switzerland.. . .	867,794	560,460
Venezuela.. . . .	512,499	1,792,685

We increased our business with these thirteen countries from \$73,000,000 to \$195,000,000 between the years 1922 and 1929. The figures have gradually become smaller since 1929, but those that I have read indicate the possibilities of business development in normal times. But what will be the reaction of those countries when they feel the effect of our Empire agreements? We probably shall be called upon to negotiate new conventions with those countries, and time alone will tell what changes will result.

There are some features of the treaty with the United Kingdom that I approach with misgiving. My right honourable friend may be able to paint their value and effect in more rosy hues, but it seems to me that they contain an unprecedented and pernicious principle. I refer to articles 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 of the treaty. They are fraught with considerable danger, for they establish an intermeddling with our fiscal policy. They indicate outside interference, which has not been welcomed in this country. Besides, it strikes me that they are hardly possible of application. Here is Article 10:

His Majesty's Government in Canada undertake that protection by tariffs shall be afforded against United Kingdom products only to those industries which are reasonably assured of sound opportunities for success.