

articles on the tariff, one by my right hon. friend opposite, (Mr. Meighen) one, I think by the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Crerar) and one also on the Liberal policy by myself. This publication is dated January 15, 1921, and here is what is stated in the magazine as to the Liberal position on the tariff:

Mr. Meighen is striving to make the issue between the political parties in Canada one of free trade versus protection. Were he in a position so to do he would create an issue to his own liking. That the issue cannot be between free trade and protection is clear from the fact that none of the political platforms now before the country, not even the platform of the Farmer's party, demand free trade. The Liberal party has no thought of tariff abolition. Its policy is one of tariff revision through reduction in the interests alike of producers and consumers. All of us are consumers; all of us are or ought to be, in the broad sense, producers, rendering some service to the community with hand or brain or both.

We believe that the time has come, indeed that it is already long past, when a downward revision of the tariff is necessary. In this revision we believe that the home and its needs should be a first consideration, that there should be substantial reductions of the duties on the necessaries of life; in other words on those articles which go to make up the food, the clothing, the shelter of the Canadian people; that certain specific articles required for the purposes of consumption, and other articles essential to production, should be free of duty altogether; and that in regard to the implements of production in the basic industries of agriculture, mining, lumbering and fishing, there should also be a substantial reduction and in some instances, a total elimination of duties.

With all there has been of destruction during the period of the war, what is needed most to meet the scarcity and taxation which have ensued is increased production. If the basic industries, the key industries of Canada, are relieved as far as possible of taxation, if the instruments of production are made easier to obtain, if production is thereby cheapened and enlarged, these industries are benefited, and the whole community is benefited. Not only do secondary industries gain in the reduction in cost of raw materials, but consumers also gain in the lessened cost of many of the essentials of life.

Exactly the same thing as I have been saying in this House this afternoon. I regret being obliged to take up the time of the House with these quotations; but I should like my right hon. friend to believe that there are in this House men who are quite as sensitive with respect to their honour as he is himself, and that the kind of talk he has been indulging in about my saying one thing in one place and another thing in another, being guilty of apostasy, infidelity and whatnot, is not the kind of thing that will go down with the Canadian people, nor is he as leader of a party setting an example that others should follow.

May I speak now of the campaign of 1921? The first meeting that I spoke at in that campaign was in the city of Toronto which, I think, is a manufacturing centre. It was addressed by the Minister of Finance (Mr.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Fielding) and myself on the evening of September 20. I have in my hand a copy of the Toronto Globe which contains extracts of what was said at that meeting. This was the opening meeting of the campaign in an industrial centre, and hon. members will I think admit that, with the possible exception of Montreal, there is no other more important industrial, manufacturing centre in Canada. This is what the Globe gives under the heading of:

Liberal leaders on two vital issues, the tariff and government railways.

Quoting from my speech that night:

It is for the principle of a tariff for revenue that the Liberal party has stood in bygone years; it is for that principle the Liberal party stands to-day, and it is for the principle of a tariff for revenue that the Liberal party will continue to stand if returned to power in the present contest.

Let me tell Mr. Meighen that, while it is impossible to have an issue between a tariff based on the principle of protection and a tariff based upon the principle of free trade, it is possible to have an issue on a tariff primarily for revenue as against a tariff primarily for protection; and that upon this issue we are prepared to fight, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fielding fought in 1896,

The Laurier-Fielding tariff, if you please.

. . . and with expectations of a like return of prosperity and stability in matters industrial and commercial, should our policy be vindicated at the polls...

I added at that time and it is quoted in the same connection:

It is because we believe that in no other way can the battle be won throughout this Dominion from ocean to ocean we propose to place Liberal candidates in the field not as expressing an antagonism toward any class or group who may share Liberal or Progressive ideas, but solely to make sure the triumph of Liberal principles and policies at the polls.

In other words, I stated at that meeting that the Liberal party intended to place its candidates, as, it did, in practically every constituency in this Dominion, against hon. gentlemen of the Progressive party opposite. They fought against these hon. gentlemen and fought on the very tariff principles which we are trying to put through this House at the present moment. We were not catering for Progressive support at that time. It cannot be said we were seeking at that time what we could get in the way of votes in this House. We were telling the people of Canada what the Liberal party was prepared to do if it were returned to power. Over and over again, throughout that campaign, I mentioned, as I mention now, that I could see no necessity for men of Progressive and Liberal views with respect to these questions, shared in common as in this particular we share them in common, being divided as we were divided in that particular struggle. I say now to my hon. friends of the Progressive party in regard