

Tariff -
REDUCTION IN AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT DUTIES

Prime Minister's Speech on the Address, February 9, 1925.

**BENEFICIAL EFFECT OF CHANGES IN TARIFF
 ON IMPLEMENTS OF PRODUCTION.**

I have only one further reference to make to these statistical matters, and it relates to the agricultural implement industry. My right hon. friend said—and I think it was somewhat of a surprise to a good many members of the House this afternoon—that he had never contended that anything the government was doing or had done was going to be an injury to the agricultural implement industry. I think hon. members will agree that only five or six months ago that was the one industry which we were told we were ruining. I am sure that during the debate on the budget last year everyone got the impression that the government was being attacked because it had singled out this particular industry for its tariff reductions. Now the leader of the opposition says, no, he never even thought we were doing an injury to the agricultural implement industry. I hope his words will go broadcast throughout the country. I hope that from one end of Canada to the other the agricultural implement workers and the heads of implement factories will understand that my right hon. friend and I are at least agreed on one fact, namely, that no injury has been done to any agricultural implement industry as a consequence of the budget introduced last year. But may I draw my right hon. friend's attention to this fact: that while we have not, as I think he has rightly said, done any injury to the agricultural implement industry, we have as a matter of fact reason to believe that we have helped that industry in some particulars. The Statistics for the nine months ending December give the total importations of farm implements into Canada and the total exportations of a like class, and these statistics show that while we imported into Canada during the nine months ended December 1924, farm implements and machinery to the value of \$5,208,041, the agricultural implement industry exported during the same period implements of a total value of \$8,203,711. That is \$3,000,000 worth of farm implements more were exported from Canada than were imported into this country during the last nine months of last year, practically the period covered by the time which elapsed after the budget announcements were made public.

Reduction in Price of Agricultural Implements.

My right hon. friend said in a speech from which I quoted a moment ago that the government, while it had made changes in the budget, had not reduced the price of agricultural implements

\$13,628,341

\$13,336,650

\$300,000

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers

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