

nomination of my convention. Before accepting that nomination I distinctly told the convention that I was opposed to the tariff upon the grounds that I have stated to-night. I distinctly told them that I wanted the privilege of supporting what I considered fair and just irrespective of party politics and that convention tendered me and gave to me without a dissenting voice their nomination. I am not so hide bound in my politics that I cannot distinguish right from wrong and I would not vote for what I considered was wrong as I believed many members, from a party standpoint in this House, I would not say on one side, but on both sides, do. I believe that the old time politics of this country are going to be a thing of the past. The younger members and the younger electors in this country are going to stand aside from their old time partyism and vote for what they consider right and just; they are going to demand their rights and I believe they will get them in a very short time. I know that I have the independent Liberals of my riding as well as the independent Conservatives to thank for my election, and I propose as long as I am a member of this House to carry out those ideas and to fight for a tariff such as our Canadian farmers and mechanics and labourers should have, but which they have not at the present time.

The first question I wish to discuss in detail is the pork question. In the years 1903-4, as shown by the return for which I asked in this House, there were imported into Canada 11,064,297 pounds of pork. We exported 210,634 pounds, or a balance in favour of the American farmers of 10,853,663 pounds. As I stated, the American duty against our pork is 5 cents a pound, a practically prohibitable duty against us. Our duty against their pork is only 2 cents per pound and, any hon. member of this House who knows anything of agriculture knows American pork can be produced far cheaper than our Canadian pork. While we in Canada producers of pork can produce more than we can consume, I ask if it is fair that the American farmer should dump this vast amount of pork into our Canadian markets and usurp our own Canadian farmers' market. The result is that this American pork is dumped into Canada, and consumed and in order to find sale for our own Canadian farmers' pork, our shippers are compelled to export our pork to the European markets. Now what I claim is that we should apply the same 5 cents per pound duty to their pork that they apply to ours, and give our Canadian farmers the Canadian market to themselves. I make the statement here without fear of contradiction that during the last few years there is not a farmer in the Dominion of Canada who has not lost one dollar per hundred on every hundred weight of pork he has sold. It is high time that we gave to the Can-

adian farmer the pork market of Canada, and thus enable him to avoid the loss which he is at present put to through having cheap American pork dumped into this country. Every man who knows anything about agriculture knows that pork can be produced in the United States a great deal cheaper than it can be produced in Canada. If it is right that other Canadian industries should be protected why should not the Canadian pork producer be protected to the same extent, and why should not the Canadian market be secured to him instead of it being left open to the American farmer.

The question of the protection of the bean-growing industry is a very important question with us in western Ontario, because there we produce this article in large quantity. The return which I have just read does not show that we have imported a very great quantity of beans during the last few years, but nevertheless there is in the Klondike, in British Columbia and in the Northwest Territories a large demand for this vegetable. The American farmer has the control of that market at the present time, and that is a state of things which this government should no longer permit. The great bulk of the beans grown in Canada is produced in western Ontario, while the greater quantity of American beans comes from California. The United States has a duty of 45 cents a bushel against our beans entering their market while the protection to the Canadian bean-growers is only 15 cents per bushel. Why does the American government maintain this duty of 45 cents per bushel, if it is not to protect the American farmer and to shut us out of the Boston and New York markets so that the California farmer may be enabled to pay the extra freight and get his beans in ahead of ours. If it is fair that the American market should be secured to the American farmer is it not fair that the Canadian market should be secured to the Canadian farmer? The California bean-grower today can ship his beans by boat freight to British Columbia at a rate of about 6 cents per bushel, and after paying the Canadian duty of 15 cents he can place his beans in the British Columbia market at a total cost of 21 cents per bushel. On the other hand if the bean-grower of western Ontario ships his product to the British Columbia market he has to pay from 50 to 60 cents per bushel freight and if you deduct 21 cents from 60 cents it shows that the American farmer has an advantage in our market of 39 cents per bushel. I see one of our British Columbia friends smiling over there; he thinks that possibly he would have to pay a little more for his beans if he purchased them from the Canadian farmer. I grant that, but if it is fair that he should be protected upon his lead, if it is fair that we in the province of Ontario should buy millions of dollars worth of lumber, shingles and fish which we buy from British Columbia and pay them their