

larger measure of fiscal justice—I speak as one from the West—than we could hope for if the hon. member for Brome (Mr. McMaster) were installed as Prime Minister of this country. My hon. friend went on:

Do you remember that old story in ancient writ of how the prophets of Baal and Elijah worked together on Mount Carmel? You remember how Elijah said, "If Baal be the Lord, serve him, and if Jehovah be the Lord, serve him." If your principles are for liberty and low tariff you know on which side of the House you should sit. If protection and high tariff be your god, then stay where you are.

This is throwing down a challenge with a vengeance. The hon. gentleman quotes that beautiful story that is told in the first book of Kings, of Elijah the Tishbite. Now, Elijah was a hairy man, and if my hon. friend from Brome wishes to imitate him, when he marches to Mount Carmel with me, he had better let his whiskers grow, and also the hair on his head, and he had better gird up his loins. Elijah asked the momentous question which the prophet of Brome asks, "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him." On Mount Carmel if the hon. gentleman would imitate Elijah he must build an altar. Elijah built his altar of twelve stones, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. I would suggest that my hon. friend take twelve representatives from the old Liberal party—twelve disciples as it were—and of these build his altar. I would suggest these names: George P. Graham, Israel Tarte, Clifford Sifton, Billy Patterson, Billy Gibson, Bob Watson, Jim Sutherland, Senator Edwards, Dr. Landerkin, Jim McMullen, Jim Somerville, and—yes, I think Aleck Smith might be thrown in there.

Mr. McMASTER: A great number of these gentlemen are dead, while others are supporting Union Government.

Mr. RICHARDSON: That cuts no ice with the prophet; as the late John Henry Pope would have said, "There hain't nothin' to it." I think it would be a pity to omit dear old Aleck Smith. He has stood true to the party through good and evil report, and I think he ought to have a place among those stones. After Elijah had built the altar, he dug trenches into which his servants poured four barrels of water. I would suggest to my hon. friend the prophet from Brome that instead of pouring water over these old-timers, he pour kerosine, for without that I cannot conceive of any fire from Heaven or any place else that would burn that crowd. Then, as to the burnt offering, our friend

the prophet from Brome, with his loins girded and his whiskers any old length, must be careful about the selection. Elijah selected a bullock, I would suggest that the hon. gentleman drop the last three letters of the word "bullock." Also, as to how the animal should be slaughtered, I think that in view of the machine gun practice of many of these hon. gentlemen in the constituencies for the last twenty-five years, they should shoot the animal. And after these details are attended to it will be interesting to stand by and observe which god he will invoke to get his sacrifice consumed. Will he call upon Jehovah whom he would regard as the god of free-trade, or upon Baal, the reputed god of protection? He will be obliged to gash his flesh much worse than did the prophets of Baal, and cry much louder than they, in order to be heard. And is there not a danger, if he calls on the god of free trade, that he will be reminded of the 1893 platform and the seventy-one-one-hundredths of one per cent? Then, of course, whether or not he is answered by fire he is up against the proposition of imitating the example of Elijah and taking the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and slaughtering them. In order to secure that number he will have to strike without discrimination. He will have to have recourse to both parties, and probably he will find that when he has slaughtered all the prophets of Baal on his own side he has hardly a sufficient number left for a quorum in caucus. Then after the slaughter, he must in imitation of the prophet retire to the wilderness and sit down under a juniper tree and ask the Lord to take away his life, as he, only he, is left of all Israel who have not bowed the knee to Baal. But against this I think I hear the stentorian voice of the stalwart member for Red Deer declaring that not seven thousand only, but seventy times seven thousand free traders stand fast to free trade in this country, and I think I hear him suggesting also to my hon. friend from Brome to have recourse to the only acceptable sacrifice, a broken and a contrite heart.

I want to say a few words in regard to the tariff. It is bound to loom up at the present session. When the Union Government was organized there seemed to be an understanding that the tariff would not be discussed at least for a short time. At the present session it is not unlikely that the tariff will be discussed. It is a live issue. In order that this country and its industries may succeed, it is desirable that