

trust them in the future, or are you going to look to the party that believes the Canadian market must be preserved for the Canadian producer?

This budget also provides relief for another branch of agriculture, the dairy industry. The government have told us that they have notified New Zealand that the treaty arrangement with that country will be cancelled on October 12th next. The tariff has been increased, but the harm did not come from the general tariff. It was the New Zealand treaty entered into five years ago that was responsible for the sad condition in which the dairy industry finds itself to-day. With the lowering of the duty on butter to one cent a pound in 1925, butter importations into this country have rapidly increased. In 1925 we imported about 7,000,000 pounds of butter, and for the twelve months ending March of this year these importations have increased to 42,000,000 pounds valued at \$15,000,000. Just to show you how rapidly this importation has grown, may I point out that it increased by \$5,000,000 in one year as compared with 1928. Bear in mind what the importation of this quantity of butter means. Forty-two million pounds of butter is the product of 10,000 ten-cow farms, or 100,000 high-grade milch cows. Those who have opposed relief for this industry have continually quoted the price of whole milk, but any one familiar with the industry knows that the whole product cannot be disposed of in that form. It is necessary that the farmer should have a profit on the products of milk, such as butter and cheese. Conditions in the industry are such to-day that it does not pay to make butter or cheese, and the farmer is consequently losing the by-products of butter making. Dairy herds have in consequence decreased and our farms are losing their fertility. It affects the production of poultry on the farm. It has greatly affected our pork exports, which were very large a few years ago, but which have been gradually disappearing, falling from \$27,000,000 in 1925 to \$10,000,000 in 1928. The tariff tinkering and the treaty making of this government are responsible for this condition and the Canadian farmer is the victim.

Strong appeals were made from this side of the house during every session since 1926 down to the present to have the government cancel or amend this treaty. There were also protests in the form of resolutions and delegations from the dairy organizations throughout the country urging the abrogation of the treaty, but to all these representations the government turned a deaf ear. To-day, on the eve of the general election, the government

[Mr. Barber.]

comes through with a statement that the present arrangement will terminate on October 12th next. I fear that it is too late. The dairymen of Canada have suffered for five years under the policy of this government and they are not going to be hoodwinked into supporting them by offers of relief at the eleventh hour. They will look to the Conservative party, I believe, whose policy is the Canadian market for the Canadian producer.

Protection must be given to the three industries I have mentioned, namely, the fruit and vegetable industry, the poultry industry and the dairy industry—protection sufficient that these industries may enjoy to the fullest extent our own Canadian market. For this purpose we have in Canada to-day three tariffs—the British preferential, the intermediate and the general tariff. In addition we have a provision in the statute for the imposition of a dumping duty. But we find that in this budget provision is made for a fourth tariff, applying exclusively to a list of articles coming from the United States. This is uncalled for. The Canadian people are not aiming to hit the United States or any other country. They are concerned solely to benefit this Dominion and to promote closer trade relations with the empire as a whole. We have no particular grudge against the United States, but we do believe that Canada through its own tariff should control its own home market just as the United States controls its own home market. The countervailing duties are not in the best interests of Canada.

There is another matter that is of vital importance to those in my particular district who are engaged in farming. It is a matter to which I have directed the attention of the house on several occasions, and one which I believe has been before this government for the last six or seven years. I refer to the question of freight rates. As I mentioned before, a large section of the province of British Columbia is engaged in the dairy industry; another large section is engaged in the poultry industry, and we require all kinds of feed. The farmers of the prairie provinces have that feed for sale, but when we want a carload or two of feed grain in our district we have to pay over double the freight rate that is charged on export grain. The rate on domestic grain from the prairie provinces to Vancouver to-day is 41½ cents per one hundred pounds, while the export rate is 20 cents. This we claim is a great injustice to the farmers in our province and demands a remedy. When we approach this government on the matter they say: it is in the courts. True, the province