

wood tariff came in in 1913. Was that a raising of the United States tariff? I guess not, because I have a speech of Mr. Fordney's on my desk which I could quote if it would not detain the House, wherein he said that the Underwood tariff was the lowest tariff the United States ever had, and yet the Minister of Finance tried to make the House and the country believe that because the reciprocity treaty had been rejected by Canada, the United States had immediately raised their tariff. They did not do anything of the kind. They lowered their tariff right along the line. More than that, milk and cream, which the minister talks about, were made free under that very tariff, the Underwood tariff, whereas formerly they bore a duty.

Mr. ROBB: What about the duty on butter?

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): I will give it to the minister, I have it here. Under the Underwood tariff the duty on butter was 2½ cents a pound, and it had been 6 cents. Under the Payne tariff it was 6 cents a pound, and under the Underwood tariff it was 2½ cents a pound. That was two years after reciprocity was beaten. Now what else happened? The minister said there were upward revisions of the tariff. That is not true either. What happened was this: After the Underwood tariff came the war tariff, what was known as the emergency tariff, adopted after the war started. Then came the Fordney tariff and hon. gentleman opposite, speaking throughout the country, said, "Oh, put us into power. We are better able to make a treaty with the United States than anyone else. They are more in sympathy with us, and we are more in sympathy with the policy that will allow their products to come into Canada. We will make a treaty with them if you will give us the chance." Yet in the face of those gentlemen the Fordney tariff was put into operation. A year after they came into power the Fordney tariff was brought into effect. Yet the minister has the hardihood to come here and say that because of the rejection of the reciprocity treaty the United States put up their tariff. Well, he knew better. I give the minister credit for knowing a great deal better than that, but it was good stuff to put forward.

Mr. ROBB: I do not want to interrupt the trend of my hon. friend's argument, but since he has given these changes in the duty and apparently has them before him—I admit that cream in that period was put on the free list—will he tell us of the gradual jacking up that took place on milk and cream?

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): I will give the minister any information he wants, I have it all here. What year would my hon. friend like to have?

Mr. ROBB: The changes.

Mr. CHAPLIN (Lincoln): Well under the Payne tariff—that was before the reciprocity proposition—milk was 2 cents a gallon and fresh cream 5 cents a gallon. Under the reciprocity proposition it would have been free, and under the Underwood tariff it was free without any reciprocity. As I said before in the emergency tariff it was put up 2 cents a gallon, and in the Fordney tariff cream was put up from 5 to 10 cents according to its strength. The Fordney tariff was enforced after hon. gentlemen came into office. I have a copy of that tariff here; it is dated 1922. Why did hon. gentlemen opposite not get busy and obtain for Canada what they said they would? The truth of the matter is that nobody can convince the United States what they shall do as far as protection is concerned. The words of Calvin E. Coolidge expresses pretty well what is in the minds of the people of the United States:

We have built agriculture squarely into the structure of our protective system, and the American farmer must not be undersold at home by New Zealand mutton, Argentine beef, Canadian wheat, Danish butter, Bulgarian tobacco, Chinese eggs, or Cuban sugar.

I should like to see any of my hon. friends opposite making any headway with that bunch over there. They are looking after their own people, and that is all we are asking this government to do—look after our own people too.

Now, I have a couple more references to make to the Minister of Finance. I notice that in his speech, as reported, at page 823 of unrevised Hansard he asked the right hon. leader of the opposition three times in as many sentences as to the importation of fresh eggs from Australia. The minister ridiculed the idea of fresh eggs coming in from Australia, and I will take the trouble to quote to the House what he said:

My right hon. friend may not have been correctly reported, but I recall having read some of his speeches during the election campaign when he asserted that by the Australian treaty this government had ruined the fresh egg and butter industry of Canada. If my right hon. friend was correctly reported that was not a very great credit to his intelligence. I would give him credit for greater intelligence than to believe that Canada will ever buy fresh eggs from Australia.

Five times in as many sentences he used the words "fresh eggs." I should like to ask the minister now if the words "fresh eggs" appear in the treaty? No, the word