

some of those people in Great Britain and see if we cannot find in the resolution which I have just read common ground upon which we can get together along preference lines, and so have 400,000,000 bushels of our wheat go into the British market at 35 cents more per bushel, or at the same price that the British public are now paying for foreign wheat. You do not have to ask the Britisher to tax himself in your interest; he is doing that already.

Mr. FORKE: Could the hon. gentleman inform me why 35 cents a bushel more was paid for foreign wheat than for wheat imported from the dominions?

Mr. FOSTER: I am very sorry, Sir, but on account of the defective acoustic properties of this chamber, of which I complained at the outset of my address, I was not able to hear what my hon. friend said. Will he kindly repeat his question?

Mr. FORKE: Can the hon. member explain why 35 cents per bushel more is paid for foreign wheat than for wheat grown within the empire?

Mr. FOSTER: I frankly tell my hon. friend that the thing is so startling to me that any explanation I would attempt to give would be simply along general lines, but I submit, and I think the hon. member for Brandon (Mr. Forke) will agree with me, that it is worthy of every possible investigation. We can communicate with the men whose names I have read to you, and who may be responsible for this statement.

Mr. CAMPBELL: In my opinion those figures are not correct. If you will examine the figures day by day and the wheat prices in the old country, you will see no such disparity as that.

Mr. FOSTER: There is the whole difficulty; the wheat prices do not show the situation at all. We do not say it; it is the Englishmen who say that sixty per cent of the wheat brought into the United Kingdom is brought from foreign sources on which they pay three shillings a hundredweight more than on wheat produced within the empire. They can do that if they want to. You may say it is not good business, but the Englishman has been doing business much longer than we have, and when we think he is through he bobs up, arranges for his debts, and carries on all over the world.

Just one other thought in that connection. There is to-day a movement in the old country to inaugurate a policy which would have for its object new duties imposed upon

[Mr. Foster.]

the importation from foreign countries of certain commodities which the empire itself can produce in great quantities; for example, canned fruits, apples and canned salmon. I say to my friends to my left, I will be delighted to go with you on the question of wheat, if you will come with me on the question of apples, canned fruits and canned salmon, because these are the things we handle in the eastern part of Canada. If you want to get into that market, which is your market as it is our market, if there is within the four corners of that policy something upon which we can get together, I ask you gentlemen now if you do not think it is worth while for 35 cents a bushel on 400,000,000 bushels, or \$140,000,000, to scrap any political ideas Adam Smith may have had years and years ago.

I have already detained the House, Mr. Speaker, far too long. I appreciate your courtesy and the courtesy of the House on this my first serious effort to place before you important matters which touch vitally the life of that portion of Canada from which I am proud to come. I have not been able to touch them all, but phases of them have already been ably dealt with in the speeches of other hon. gentlemen who have spoken, and other phases will be taken up by those who are to follow. I can assure the House of this, that we have in Canada the task to develop our industrial as well as our agricultural facilities and resources, and upon those two things will depend the maximum progress and the maximum development of this country and the happiness of our people. What is more, it is the remedy for keeping our people at home with us, and will be the means of bringing to our country others who will settle among us and become happy and prosperous Canadians.

Mr. T. H. STINSON (Victoria, Ont.): Mr. Speaker, for the last five weeks I have been watching the relationship between the government benches and my Progressive friends to the left, and that observation has recalled to my mind the instructions given by a certain man for the drawing of his will. He instructed his solicitor, gave him all the details, and after the executors were named he desired that his pall-bearers should also be named in the will. He named six bankers as pall-bearers. The solicitor naturally wondered why he should name six bankers as pall-bearers, and the answer came back, "They have carried me so far; let them finish their work." Mr. Speaker, could we as Conservatives afford to sit down and allow that process to go on? I say not, if we are to preserve our honour with the people of Canada.