

lowering the cost of implements of production was driving our people from Canada, forcing them to compete with the cheaper markets of the world and giving them less than an equal chance with other countries. This government have been taken to task at different times by hon. gentlemen opposite for this very thing. Now our friends are going to do two things at once; they are going to put the cost of living and the cost of production on such a low basis that our people will be able to compete with foreign countries in the markets of the world, and they are going to do it by increasing the tariff. That is the peculiar part of this argument, although the hon. member does not specifically say so. I cannot see how our friends opposite can be consistent in advocating a policy of that kind; to my mind that is ridiculous. How can you cheapen the cost of the implements of production by increasing the tariff? I do not think this policy will prove very acceptable to the Canadian people. Do they propose to bring our people to serfdom by compelling them to work longer hours for less pay, in order to produce cheap manufactured articles to sell in competition with the world? If we fully consider this article in the *Star* we can only come to the conclusion that if an industry requires a bonus in order that it may be kept going, it is up to the province, the municipality or the city in which that industry is located to look after it, if it is going to be a benefit to that particular community. I do not think the rest of Canada should be asked to pay a bonus to an industry in the city of Toronto, or some other city, to the detriment to the rest of the Dominion. If it is so advantageous to these communities to retain these industries, those communities should bonus the industries locally; the whole country should not be asked to do so.

Referring for a moment to the tariff board, which has been discussed quite often, I have advocated from time to time the widening of the scope of this board. I do not know the views of the government on this question, but I think the efficiency of that board could be greatly increased by widening their scope in order that they might confer with other tariff boards. In the United States they have a tariff commission which is a fact finding body acting in an advisory capacity, very similar to our own board, and if these two bodies could confer together there might be a good many items on which a reasonable adjustment could be made.

The question of potatoes in the province of Prince Edward Island has often been mentioned in this house. We are in that business on a very large scale at present, and are forced

to ship these potatoes into the United States against a tariff of 50 cents per hundred pounds. We are growing certified seed potatoes there, which the farmers in the southern states need; it is to the benefit of the farmers and consumers to get those potatoes as cheaply as possible. I have had a good deal of correspondence with the United States tariff commission on this question, and I was surprised at the attention they gave the matter simply through my personal request. They went into it very thoroughly, and the question of whether or not seed potatoes could be identified as against table stock came up. Finally I received a communication from them stating that the explanation I had offered had been carefully considered, and they were of the opinion that if the state of Maine did not object too much there was a possibility that some satisfactory solution of the question might be found. I assured them that seed potatoes were certified with a government tag, and could be identified as such; therefore there was no possibility of these potatoes coming into competition with the table stock. I believe that the government would do well to widen the scope of the tariff board and let them interview other tariff boards in connection with matters of this kind.

There are always matters of local interest which we wish to talk over, and matters of this kind have been referred to by other speakers in this debate. Just in passing I would like to compliment the government, and more particularly the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Elliott), on the splendid facilities which have been given us for the handling of our crops—through the erection of suitable cold storage or semi-frostproof warehouses at Summerside, Charlottetown and Georgetown. These warehouses have been a great benefit to our people and have been used very extensively during the past year. As time goes on our people will see more clearly the benefits which they are receiving from these improved facilities.

That brings to mind another matter, and I would like to refer briefly to the request which has been put forward for a second car ferry. This is now being considered by the management of the Canadian National Railways. We sincerely hope that the time is not far distant when another efficient and suitable boat will be put on that route to take care of the increased traffic. The one boat on the route at present is taken off for perhaps six weeks in the spring season for repairs, and that is the very time of the year that it is most needed, with people coming to the island as tourists and others returning from trips abroad. The Scotia, which takes the place