

ports were so profitably sold abroad, so profitable were the voyages of the ships engaged in distributing those exports throughout the world that they were enabled to bring back in these same ships, goods in exchange to the value of \$1,970,000,000, showing a profit on that year's transactions of \$400,000,000.

Wealth, as indicated by taxable incomes, increased from \$1,255,000,000 in 1840, to \$3,461,000,000 in 1893, an increase of 250 per cent. The wealth of the English people, as indicated by their savings—and this will commend itself, I am sure, to hon. gentlemen opposite, who are fond of quoting such statistics as an evidence of the prosperity of this country—the wealth of the English work people, as indicated by their savings rose from \$122,500,000, in 1841, to \$220,000,000 in 1894.

While this wealth was rolling up in the hands of the people of that nation, the nation paid off \$650,000,000 of its national debt, paid off \$200,000,000 of the Crimean war debt, and paid the millions which the Minister of Justice said she was forced to spend to compel the uncivilized nations of the world to buy her goods. Pauperism decreased in England and Wales from 201,000 able-bodied paupers, in 1841, to 107,000 in 1893. While the population of England increased during that period 45 per cent, the number of able-bodied paupers decreased 45 per cent. Crime decreased in England, the convictions for indictable offences being 34,000 in 1841, and 13,000 in 1893.

Now, as to the foreign trade of England. I will compare the trade of free-trade England with that of some of the principal protectionist countries of the world, and I will give the latest year for which a comparison is possible, 1891. In 1891 the population of the United Kingdom was about 38,000,000, and their exports and imports aggregated \$3,600,000,000. The German Empire, with a population of about 50,000,000, had a total trade of \$2,000,000,000. The United States, with a population of 65,000,000 had a total trade of \$1,717,000,000. The total trade of Germany and the United States scarcely exceeds that of England alone, with one-third of their population. France and Russia, with four times the population of the United Kingdom had a foreign trade of \$34,000,000 less, and Italy and Spain, with ten millions more population have a trade in value less than one-sixth that of England.

Mr. GRIEVE. And all these are protected countries.

Mr. DAWSON. These are the great protectionist countries of the world. Not one of them has a trade in any way equal to that of England. All of them are hopelessly behind her in her foreign trade. It is not likely then that the statesmen of England can be induced to turn back the hands of

the clock of time for fifty years, and to reenact the Corn Laws, for even so loyal a man as the member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill) and his friends in this House.

The Government now in power in Canada still stick to protection. They say that the "duty imposed on imported articles does not increase the price of articles manufactured in this country." Mr. Speaker, it does increase the price of every one of them. Competition among our manufacturers, there is none. The moment competition appears, combination kills it at once, and every member of this House who is engaged in mercantile pursuits knows the answer which is given to him if he demurs at the price of any article of Canadian manufacture. The answer is a shrug of the shoulder, and "I cannot help it, it is the combination price." The combination price! A sufficient answer always for the representative of a commercial house to make.

Prices on articles of Canadian manufacture are kept up as high as the duty will let them go. The moment you lower the duty, that moment you lower the price. This was proved last session by the very slight attempt the Finance Minister made in the direction of tariff reform. The prices of binder twine, coal oil, agricultural implements, and general hardware dropped when the tariff was touched.

The benefits of having manufactures in our country was preached to our farmers up west by members of the Government on their missionary tour last fall. Senator Ferguson, speaking of the competition our farmers had to meet, from India and the Argentine Republic, declared:

You cannot enter into competition with such producers. The only thing you can do is to keep your own markets for the products of Canadian farms.

According to the Hon. Senator, the English market is no good, the foreign market is no good, the markets in the other parts of the Empire are no good, for he declares that we cannot enter into competition with the producers from the Argentine Republic and India, and that we must keep our own markets for the products of the Canadian farm, and cease striving for any extension. The Senator evidently has given up hope of our extending our export trade. He says further:

I desire for a moment to call your attention to where you must get your market. You all know you cannot sell an article to an idle man, who has no money to buy it. \* \* \* In order to have your consumer in the position to buy your products, you must give him work.

The farmer has to do at all. First, he must give work to the person to whom he hopes to sell, and then he has the privilege of selling to him if he can. He says:

Give him work by getting him to make exactly what you want at your own doors.

But not at your own price by any means. The manufacturer who employs him and