

the face of God's footstool are better fed and clad than the Canadian people. We supplied ourselves and as our exports are so much more than our imports we should be satisfied that we are on the fair road to prosperity. When my hon. friend speaks of Great Britain, with the balance of trade against her, getting rich all the time, he must remember that the mother country has been rich from time immemorial. Great Britain is the banker of the world, with money loaned to all the nations of the world. There is where the imports of Great Britain come in—the interest on those loans. They do not feel the effect of the balance of trade being against them. So far as we are concerned, it is the labour of the people who produce that we have to rely upon. We have to look after them and see that they get fair play. I do not want to encourage imports from foreign countries.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—I should like to ask the hon. gentleman, was not the country prosperous during the period the Conservative government was in power, when every year they were in power they were importing a great deal more than they exported? How do you account for that?

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—The hon. gentleman says the country was prosperous.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—But they were importing more than they exported; how do you account for that prosperity?

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—They were building railways and other public works with borrowed capital. The people of Great Britain have money loaned all over the world, while we are borrowers. When we import shoddy and silks and satin from Great Britain while our men are idle, it is a poor lookout for the country. It is all very well to say "encourage importations into this country," but we should not import more than we are able to pay for. I say, import as little as you can; manufacture and produce everything you want in this country so far as it can be done and keep people comfortable; pay a good day's wage for a good day's work, that is the true policy for this country. The people of the Dominion are in a comfortable condition, and have only exported what they do not need for their own use. The crofters and the tenants in Ireland,

many of them, have to sell the pigs that they should consume in their families in order to pay the rent. It is not so in Canada. We are a prosperous people, and it should be the duty of the government not to encourage importations into this country, but to encourage the production of what we require in our own land. It is a blessing for this country to-day that our exports far exceed our imports, and I hope it will always continue to be so. My hon. friend who moved this resolution now before the House, said that the country is prosperous and that the government ought to have credit for producing that prosperity. I would ask my hon. friend what have the government of this country done to deserve credit for the increased exports of the Dominion. Have they made even two blades of grass grow where only one grew before? They say the man who does that is a benefactor to his country. Can they point to one single instance where they helped the people to increase the production of the country in any degree? Before I sit down I shall show where they have hindered the productions of this country; that in every instance where they departed from the policy of their predecessors, the country was a sufferer by it. They stole the Conservative clothes, and whenever they used their own the country has suffered. I believe we should manufacture and produce everything in this country that we require ourselves, as far as possible. They believe in encouraging foreign production in preference to our own, and the hon. gentleman says they ought to have credit for that policy. When my hon. friend spoke of the Yukon Railway, I thought at first he was going to oppose the whole policy. He said he did not like that at all, because he remembers the speeches of the party leaders before they got into power, in which they contended that all public contracts should be let by tender. But before he was through he swallowed it all. I am not ready to accept or oppose the contract, because I do not know what it is. The leader of the House said the other day, if we knew as much about this question as he does, we would all vote for it. We asked him to inform us. He said that would never do, because there was some foreign correspondence about it. I should like to know what secret there is about 150 miles of tram road in British territory. The