

a great deal of pessimism was expressed by hon. gentlemen immediately opposite, as well as by their press, with regard to the dire fate that was to overtake various manufacturing interests in this country as a result of the fiscal proposals of the government. I do not propose, however, to discuss the budget in its application to the whole of Canada; my observations will be confined more particularly to the condition existing in Nova Scotia, a province of which I am one of the representatives. Things have not been going well in Nova Scotia, I regret to say, for some time.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Or anywhere else.

Mr. KYTE: Oh, yes; there are places in Ontario where factories are working overtime and on double shifts.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Where are they?

Mr. KYTE: Unfortunately, however, it is not so in Nova Scotia.

Mr. SPENCE: You ought to live in Ontario and find out.

Mr. KYTE: Thank heaven I am living where I am.

Mr. SPENCE: Well, we are glad you are.

Mr. KYTE: The grievances of Nova Scotia extend as far back as confederation. It is well known to students of the political history of this country that Nova Scotia did not take kindly to the confederation idea. After the leaders of political opinion in the great central provinces of Ontario and Quebec had come to the conclusion that stable government could not be continued under the conditions then existing, it was decided to bring about the union of those two provinces, and subsequently the idea was enlarged to include all the Maritime provinces. Following the conferences at Charlottetown and Quebec, called for the purpose of discussing the union of these provinces, it was decided that the Maritime provinces would be included. A campaign was carried on in Nova Scotia and great promises were made as to the advantages that would accrue to the province if it came into the union. The people of Nova Scotia, however, were not friendly to the idea. In the general election of 1867, which was known as confederation election, only one member was returned from Nova Scotia who was a supporter of confederation, namely, Sir Charles Tupper; every other representative from that province was opposed to it. And confederation has not worked out any better than was anticipated by the people of Nova Scotia at that time.

The second grievance that they have in Nova Scotia is the grievance in respect of the protectionist policy of the Conservative government from 1878 to 1896. The National Policy, which was expected to do great things in the development of manufacturing industries in Canada, had no place in Nova Scotia as regards the fulfilment of the promises that were made. Nova Scotia had its natural market in the United States, a market which has never been supplanted in any of the provinces of the confederation. The products of Nova Scotia are not purchased by the central provinces of Canada, but the people of Nova Scotia are compelled to purchase the manufactured products of Ontario and Quebec. The trade appears to be all going one way; the people of central Canada are sending their manufactured goods to Nova Scotia and are taking nothing but money in return.

Now, let us see how the National Policy worked out during the first ten years that it was in existence. In 1878 the Conservative party came into office on that policy, and the first census that was taken after that, embracing a ten-year period, was in 1891. If protection had worked out so advantageously to the people of Canada; if it had established a large number of factories and increased the amount of employment in those provinces, that would have been shown in the census returns. But so well was it known by the government of the day that the National Policy was a failure in these respects that instructions were sent out to the census enumerators and census commissioners in the various parts of Canada to make every effort to swell the number of manufacturing industries throughout the country. It is known that down in Nova Scotia an aged grandmother, knitting with feeble fingers by the family fireside, was set down in the census returns as a knitting factory. The woman who endeavoured to increase the family budget by taking in sewing was included in the list of proprietors of industrial establishments. A man who burned one kiln of lime for the purposes of fertilizing his own farm was set down as a manufacturer. If the National Policy has been a success, would it have been necessary to resort to this expedient of bringing about an apparent increase in the number of manufacturing establishments?

Down in Nova Scotia before the National Policy came into effect we had a considerable number of industries. In the town of New Glasgow, in the county of Pictou, there was a very prosperous glass factory which had operated for some years. The result of the