

As an illustration, it has been found possible to obtain free entry into Canada for fresh fruit and vegetables, a matter of special value to the south and to the Pacific coast in disposing of their products in their season.

I commend to the fruit growers of Canada the opinion of President Taft on how the United States fruit industry will be benefited by finding a new market in Canada. If it could be said that this government had opened up a new market of 92,000,000 people who required what we produce, not having enough of these articles themselves, then they might expect to get the approval of the people. But, the fact is that Canada produces more farm products than Canada herself requires, and the United States is in exactly the same position. The United States is an exporter of these articles mentioned in the trade agreement just as Canada is, and I cannot understand what advantage it is to the Canadian people to have access to the markets of a country which manufactures more than it can consume, and which produces more farm products than is required for their own consumption. Surely it is manifest that such an arrangement can be of no value to the farmers of Canada. Some say that protection increases the cost of the manufactured article to the consumer, and as that question has been often discussed I shall not dwell upon it further than to point out that in 1879, when the National Policy was passed there was an establishment in this country which that year manufactured about 30 buggies, for which the farmers paid them from \$100 to \$170 each, but last year, in various kinds of wheeled vehicles the same company had an output of 15,000, and they sold to the farmer for \$85 a better buggy than formerly he had to pay \$100 to \$170 for. In 1878 the price of sugar was 9 and 10 cents per pound retail, but to-day, under a protective policy, it is under 5 cents per pound. The best self-binder was sold, in 1878, at from \$275 to \$300, but to-day the farmer gets a lighter and more compact binder that will last longer for \$125. In 1878 single reapers retailed in Ontario at from \$100 to \$105, but to-day the best reapers retail at from \$60 to \$65. And so I could go all down the list and give instances to show that after all where a protective tariff is placed on the statute-books in the interest of all the people, instead of increasing the price, it decreases the price to the consumer, and in addition our own people get the benefit of the wages at home and the farmers of Canada supply the wage-earners with their products. And now, as to the fruit and vegetable industry, I point out that we have at the present time large quantities of fruit coming into Canada free of duty, and it comes into competition with our native

Mr. BLAIN.

grown fruit. For the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1910, there were entered for home consumption in Canada the following:

Oranges and grape fruit...	\$2,135,943
Pineapples.. . . .	252,719
Lemons.. . . .	528,149
Bananas.. . . .	1,499,095
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	\$4,415,906

These fruits go into competition with fruits we raise upon our own farms, and for my part I think that the present protection should be left where it is, and that so long as these fruits that we cannot grow in our own country come in free of duty the consumer will not suffer by the protection that is given to the fruit and vegetable interests. Now, some remarks have been made in respect to the price of wheat under this new arrangement, and some of the farmers in the west think they will procure a higher price for their wheat, but let me refer them to this authority, which I quote from the Toronto 'Globe' of February 9 last:

The Right Hon. Sidney Charles Buxton, President of the Board of Trade, London, England, speaking:

Stated that the more Canadian wheat goes to the United States, the more will the United States send to Great Britain, with the result that the prices will decline.

That means, of course, and it seems quite logical, that the more Canadian wheat that is sent to the United States the more United States wheat there will be to ship to England, and the lower the price will be in the English market. My hon. friend from Red Deer (Mr. Clark) has told us that the price of wheat is fixed in England, and therefore, it cannot be expected that under this new tariff arrangement the natural course of trade will be changed and the price of wheat fixed by the United States market. Then as to the pork industry let me quote from a statement submitted to the government the other day by a large delegation representing that industry. Here is what they said:

The meat packers of Ontario and Quebec have in good faith invested large sums of money in fixed assets reported by their buildings and plant. They have had the courage to build and equip their houses in advance of the production of hogs necessary to their operation. They have to-day, as they have had for years past an aggregate capacity greatly exceeding the aggregate supply of hogs. They are, therefore, deeply concerned and have great anxiety as to the effect upon these investments if the proposed reciprocal trade relations are established between Canada and the United States.

These business men of Canada are deeply concerned and in great anxiety as to the effect upon their investment by the proposed reciprocal trade relations between