

consumption and other articles essential to production should be placed upon the free list, and that in regard to the instruments of production in the basic industries of agriculture, mining, lumbering and fishing, there should also be a substantial reduction of duties. It is not a question of free trade or protection. With the revenue which will be required for years to come, to meet the large interest payments on public debt, the obligations to our returned soldiers in the way of pensions and in other respects, as well as to carry on the work of government in Canada—resort as we may to direct taxation of incomes and of business profits, which is also a part of the Liberal policy; tax as we will all luxuries, which is another plank in the Liberal platform—there will still be required for purposes of revenue large sums of money which of necessity will have to be raised by indirect taxation through a customs tariff. In revising the tariff to this end, care will be taken of the position and needs of all the industries in our country; but such tariff as may be necessary in this connection will be, under Liberal policy, a tariff for consumers and producers, and not a tariff to further the interests of combines, monopolies, or of any special or privileged classes.

The Toronto Globe of the same date contains, on its front page, part of what I have just read, and has the following additional statement which I made at that time, and which I have held to consistently ever since:

It is not honest to say that we can do away with the tariff. We can revise it, and that is the policy of the Liberal party. And I shall say in regard to tariff policies exactly the same in the city of Toronto as I shall say in the western provinces. I have not one message for the city and another message for the country, one message for the employer and another for the employee.

During the fall of 1920 I went out as far as western Canada with my hon. friend the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) the hon. member for Lunenburg and the late Hon. Mr. Kennedy, and we spoke in a number of the cities of western Canada. I shall not take up the time of the House reading lengthy extracts, but I would like to read a few words from the speeches I then made, and I shall give a reference in each case to the paper in which these statements will be found; so that if hon. gentlemen wish to look up the records they may do so. I will read the statements that have a bearing on what the government is seeking to do in the tariff proposals before the House. In the Victoria Daily Times, September 18, 1920, the following will be found:

The Liberal leader's policy on the tariff is a substantial reduction of the duties on the necessities of life, the things which go to make the food, clothing and shelter of the Canadian people; the placing of articles essential to production on the free list, and material reductions in the duties on implements of agriculture, mining, lumbering and fishing. He frankly believes in a tariff, but declares it should be a tariff for consumers and producers rather than for profiteers and special privilege.

After a meeting in that city on the night of September 29 a press despatch sent out from

Vancouver appeared in the Ottawa Citizen of the day following as follows:

Hon. Mr. King discussed the leading problems of the day, the cost of living and the tariff, declaring that, with regard to the latter that what is wanted is not taking of evidence, but immediate revision to bring relief to consumers and producers, in regard to the high cost of living.

The Lethbridge Herald has the following with reference to a meeting held at Lethbridge October 19, 1920:

It is not a question of free trade or tariff. Under Liberal policy it will be a tariff for consumers and producers".

Change of tariff means the interests of consumer and producer and putting an end to profiteering".

Cut down the tariff on all necessities of life.

Substantial reductions or taking off the duties on the implements used in our basic industries of farming, lumbering, mining and fisheries, is our tariff policy.

There is no time more than the present for a great agricultural policy.

It is a good thing to have towns and cities, but an evil thing if towns and cities are to develop at the expense of rural centres.

As you develop the great basic industries so you increase the amount of raw material for manufacture.

The Lethbridge Herald of the 20th October has also the following editorial reference:

There was a basic truth in what Mr. King laid down that the basic industries of the country should be relieved from the factors that prejudice these industries to the detriment of the country at large, in the placing of burdens on the implements of production. He brought his argument home when he exemplified its truth in the statement that only by the production of cheap raw material could the manufacturers of the country hope to be able to compete with other countries.

Speaking at Saskatoon October 22, reported in the Manitoba Free Press the day following, I find the following:

We hold that there should be an all-round revision in the interests of consumers and producers, and substantial reductions in two great particulars—the necessities of life and the implements of production in the basic industries.

At Prince Albert a meeting was held on October 28 and the report in the Montreal Herald, October 29, reads as follows:

He maintained that the greatest question in Canada was the cost of living, and that its only ultimate solution lay in greater production. It was for this reason that the Liberal party felt that in the interests of Canada as a whole too much encouragement could not be given to the agricultural industry.

There were other speeches made in 1920 in different parts of the country, and telegraphed all over Canada by the Associated Press in which the same declarations of policy appear. There could be no doubt in the minds of anyone who had been reading the press where I stood and where the Liberal party stood on the question.

I will now quote from MacLean's Magazine, and in doing so I do not think any hon. gentleman will think I am quoting from a Liberal organ. This magazine published a series of