

altogether different from me, who was born and brought up on a farm.

Mr. McNEILL. Well, I will tell the hon. gentleman that I was born and brought up on a farm, too.

Mr. LANDERKIN. He does not look like a farmer. He appears to be one of these white kid-glove farmers. But when he talks of the prosperous times, I am reminded of a little event that occurred at my place just before I came down. A young man who was a sawyer in a mill in the riding the hon. gentleman represents—I think it is owned by Mr. McVicker—came to my house, and he said: "Can I get a job of cutting wood from you?" I asked him: "Why do you want a job of cutting wood?" He said: "I have been working in the mill at Wiarton, and it has been closed down, and I have nothing to do." Now, we have the statement made by a politician that things are prosperous; and he ought to know that his riding is coming to rags, for the mills there are closed. Now, I am going to read to you what a farmer writes to me from the county of Bruce, also. He has been trying to get a situation, and in his letter he says:

"I have had no offers yet for my farm, but I must find something to work at, as stopping here on my farm is not going to put bread and butter in my mouth. At present, the outlook seems rather blue; still, people seem to live in hopes of better times, myself among the number. I have been to Collingwood searching for employment, and I saw the manager of Mr. Dodge's mill—I was book-keeper there at one time—and found that times were bad with them, and very little hope of improvement."

Now, there is the testimony of one who is not a politician but a farmer, and he is a gentleman whose word I would rely upon. It is most extraordinary that gentlemen will get up here and try to paint the condition of this country differently from what it really is. It is very much to be regretted that it becomes necessary, in the interest of any party in this country, for gentlemen to get up and misrepresent the actual condition of the country. There is not a member of this House who does not know that wheat was never so low in this country as it is now, as well as all other grains that the farmer produces. Now, the subject of wheat is quite pertinent to the question under discussion, because if wheat continues as low as it is, the country will soon go to rags. The hon. member for North Bruce cannot have been farming long. The more I look at the hon. member, the more I am impressed with the idea that he is not a farmer. He is living on a farm; perhaps he has a mansion or a palace; but he does not go down, like the rest of us, into the fields, and work and dig and cultivate his farm; but perhaps he goes around with a whip or cane, or something of that kind, and looks after his men, and then he comes and tells us that he does not know that in his own riding the mills are closed up, and the farmers are getting less for their wheat than they have got at any time during the last twenty or thirty years. A number of friends called on me before I came away from home, and they wanted me to speak to Sir John. They were supporters of his, although friends of mine. Many supporters of his are friends of mine, and I am glad they are, and I hope they will continue to be friends of mine. They said to me: "Will you go, doctor, and ask Sir John if he cannot do something to raise the price of wheat for us. Wheat has never been so low since we have lived in the Queen's bush, as it is now, and we want you to go Sir John and tell him that we want him to carry out his promise and raise the price of wheat." Well, I did not go to see him—our relations are somewhat strained—and I thought I would take this opportunity to ask him, for the sake of these men who trusted and supported him, if he cannot get them a higher price for their wheat. Will not the hon. member for North Bruce and the hon. Minister of Customs ask him to do so? The Minister of Customs sits there as happy as a clam since he has got into office. We remember when he

Mr. LANDERKIN.

was not so happy—when he was on this side of the House. We remember the deputation that he got to come down and press Sir John to take him into the Cabinet if there should be a change. We remember how cross and savage he used to be. I wonder how he gets along now? I think he must be happier now, because he smiles oftener now than he did then; the uncertainties as to his position have been removed. You know I am a practical farmer; I was brought up on a farm, and know all about it. The hon. member for North Bruce (McNeill), is a theoretical farmer; he does not believe in theory, but he farms on theory, and I want him to see the Government and not delay about it. I want him to see that the farmers get a better price for their grain and for their wool. You know that wool was never so low since you have been in the country; I do not know how long you have been here, but I do know you have not been here very long. You had only to show yourself and you were elected.

The CHAIRMAN. The hon. gentleman is out of order when he addresses an hon. member across the floor, and not the Chair; also when he wanders from the subject which is brought before the committee. On these two points that hon. gentleman is out of order, and I must ask him to confine himself to the question in future.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Will you kindly tell me what the question is?

The CHAIRMAN. Woollen rags.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Just what I thought; and my observations were all tending to show that the policy of the Government is going to bring us all to rags, and this House has now come to woollen rags. And about rags: I remember the time when the Minister of Customs used to come into the House and speak of the Government, which then administered affairs, as a starvationist Government. He said they were starving the people; and how did they do it? At that time the farmer used to get \$1.50 a bushel for his wheat; at present, I know lots of people who have sold their wheat at 70 cents, but the Minister of Customs is happy to-night; he has come out all right, and he has not a word to say about the bad times. He used to have trouble getting through the corridors of the House from the great crowd of officials; but how does he get through now with so many more in it.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I would like to know who has been speaking to-night, who was in order. Was all this discussion about wheat in order? If other hon. gentlemen have a certain amount of liberty, I do not see why I should be restricted in my remarks.

The CHAIRMAN. I am giving you a great deal of liberty.

Mr. LANDERKIN. I am much obliged to you, Sir, but I will not take any undue liberty. Hon. gentlemen were very much astonished to hear the hon. member for North Bruce (Mr. McNeill) talk in the manner he did, because that hon. gentleman knows that in his own riding the mills are closed and the people seeking employment all over, without being able to get it. I hope the Government will give serious consideration to this matter. If discontent has arisen, it is owing to their policy all over the country. I hope the Government will look into the interests of the country, and see that peace, prosperity, order and harmony are restored.

Mr. McNEILL. If my hon. friend opposite had addressed one solitary argument in reply to what I advanced, I should have been most happy to have replied to him. He has only argued as to whether I look like a farmer or not. If I do not look like a farmer I am very sorry, for I like to look like a farmer; but I will not pronounce an opinion as