

for us not, as my right hon. friend has said, to adopt a policy of 49 per cent protection, and not as he said to preach one doctrine in one part of the country and another doctrine in the far west—we would be acting like hon. gentlemen opposite if we did that—but to preach the doctrine throughout the country, as my hon. friend the leader of the opposition did in his memorable tour, of building up our own country, and, if we find a great and powerful community like the United States reaching the acme of prosperity, reaching the height of wealth which they have reached under a high tariff, not to sacrifice our own country to them, but to keep our own resources for ourselves and for our people and to take the means that may be necessary to achieve that end. My hon. friend the leader of the opposition has never advocated any other doctrine but that either in this House nor anywhere else; and I am surprised at my right hon. friend speaking as he does. But perhaps he may be excused, because of absence from the country at the time of the memorable tour was made as far as British Columbia by my hon. friend the leader of the opposition, for not knowing what everybody else knows and recognizes—that, whatever may be the reproaches cast upon my hon. friend (Mr. Borden) there was one unstinted praise accorded to him by everybody, and that praise was for his sincerity and for the sameness of his professions in every part of the country.

What did the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Borden) say in this House?

Now, I do not say that our policy should be framed on any principle of retaliation of tariffs—

How is that for my right hon. friend who claimed that the member from Halifax laid down a distinct doctrine of a 49 per cent tariff or any other fixed percentage of duty?

I absolutely and decidedly dissent from that. I do say that our tariff should be framed from the standpoint of the Canadian people and with a view to the preservation of the Canadian market for the Canadian people themselves.

That is the doctrine laid down by my hon. friend and followed uniformly by every one of us on this side of the House. Does my right hon. friend or any of his colleagues pretend that in his tour throughout the country the hon. member for Halifax, the leader of His Majesty's loyal opposition at any time laid down a different principle? Let them, at least, if that is their contention, quote some word from my hon. friend in any of his addresses to the people of this country showing that he proceeded on any different principle from that, or laid down in the passage of his speech that I have just quoted. And, at Victoria, what do we find my hon. friend from Halifax declaring, speaking there as the mouthpiece of those who sit on this side of the House? He said:

It is a matter of adequate protection—

That is not what my hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Fielding) takes pleasure in sneering at as he sneered here at Sir Charles Tupper's contention that we should have a preferential tariff arrangement with the mother country—but saw fit to entirely reverse his position with great humility and with ashes on his head when he went to the interimperial conference. The hon. member for Halifax, speaking at Victoria, went on:

That is a policy which is held to be the policy of the Liberal-Conservative party. That is the pronounced and declared policy of the people of this country—adequate protection of Canadian industries, a protection which will ensure to Canadians of this country their own markets at all prices and under all circumstances.

That is real patriotism, and we never contended for any other policy so far as I am aware. I defy my hon. friend, the Minister of Finance to quote a single instance of a speech of my hon. friend the leader of the opposition, in which he propounded any different idea. The leader of the opposition came west and I had the pleasure of meeting him and those who accompanied him in the city of Winnipeg. We found out there that my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior (Hon. Mr. Sifton) was not the great Bonaparte of the west that we had been taught to believe him. But what I wish to call your attention and the attention of this House to, in view of the declaration, accompanied with a certain amount of ridicule, made by my right hon. friend the leader of the government, is the language used by the hon. member for Halifax in his reported speech at the banquet which was tendered to him in the city of Winnipeg:

The policy of the Conservative party was a policy of adequate protection, Canadian protection; and would it not be an estimable benefit if the lead mines, the gold mines, the iron mines, and other industries were developed? His party held no brief from any corporation, he believed that it received less support from the manufacturers than had the Liberal party during the last four years.

I am able fully to confirm that view expressed by my hon. friend.

He supported protection because he believed it to be in the interests of the whole people of Canada. He wished to have the support of the North-west, but he absolutely refused to ask for that support by advocating a different doctrine to that which he advocated in other parts of Canada, notwithstanding the taunts which had been thrown out by his political opponents.

These remarks, Sir, made by my hon. friend in Winnipeg, in that province which, I am happy to say, is as anxious as we are in the east to build up a great and powerful commonwealth, these remarks he repeated at Lethbridge and everywhere else in the province of Manitoba. My hon. friend the