

workmen work for five and ten cents a day, and from Germany and Great Britain, with their highly industrialized system, are coming into this country, and all we are doing, in the words of President McKinley, is carrying the burden and drawing the load instead of the other fellow.

Mr. PRITCHARD: Does the hon. gentleman think that the Americans have succeeded in creating a satisfactory market for the farmers of the United States when so many states of the Union have practically become bankrupt in the last few years?

Mr. LADNER: The great trouble with hon. gentlemen to my left, and I have the most kindly feelings for them, is that they make this great mistake—they look almost entirely to the interest of the farmers and grain growers rather than to the interest of the people of Canada as a whole. If the United States had adopted that policy, I mean the policy of aiding only the agricultural interest, it would not have been the country it is to-day. But it adopted a national policy and built up the United States as a self-sustaining, unifying economic entity. It now occupies such a strong position that in recent years it was able to combat the disturbing economic forces of the rest of the world, and to gain for itself the prosperity it now enjoys.

Mr. PRITCHARD: I do not wish the hon. gentleman to misunderstand me. I am just as anxious to develop Canada as he is and if we can do that by building up industries by all means do it. But I cannot understand how we are going to absorb the hundreds of thousands of people who are coming to our shores in the manufacturing industry. We do not want them on the land because there we are already producing a surplus for which we cannot find a market.

Mr. LADNER: With a real national policy we should absorb them as the United States did. Then we should have a home market. We have a certain industrial development to-day and what is the result of the application of this budget and of the low tariff that we have had for a number of years past? People have been leaving the country. It does not require many people in a community to create commercial activity; but if you take away a certain proportion of the number then there are so many less people to consume what other people produce. The policy pursued by the United States, and the figures I read a few

[Mr. Ladner.]

minutes ago demonstrated the fact, has built up that country and established a home market.

Mr. MILLAR: Will my hon. friend explain why the American farmer is worse off than the Canadian farmer at the present time even though the United States has such a home market and has a population twelve times greater than we have.

Mr. LADNER: Yes, I think I can. There has been a surplus production on the other side of the line. In past years a great amount of land has been brought under cultivation and they have gone on increasing their production with the result that the supply has been greater than the demand. The depression which has prevailed has been world-wide and you cannot frame a policy to meet a temporary condition. In devising a policy we have to be guided by the experience of the past, and by the course pursued by other nations. We must try, as far as possible, to make our country self-dependent and self-sustaining. Of course, if hon. gentlemen do not believe in becoming a national entity, in building up Canada as a great self-sustaining country like the United States, I suppose they will carry on their activities on a free trade basis.

Mr. MILLAR: What is the object of going on producing if the home market is not any good?

Mr. LADNER: The people at home must live, you cannot leave them to starve. They will consume what they require, and if more is produced than is required you have a surplus and you have low prices. But that is only a temporary condition which in time will adjust itself in accordance with the economic law of supply and demand. In the course of time people who find it unprofitable to produce at these cheap prices will find that higher prices will prevail because there will be fewer farmers producing. Having supplied the home market the producers will then be able to ship whatever surplus they have to the markets of the world.

Mr. PRITCHARD: The hon. gentleman advocates protection on imports from the United States in order to create a home market in Canada. He says that is what has been done in the United States. But apparently the results achieved there have not been what were expected; the farmer has not got his home market.

Mr. LADNER: Where do they get their food? Do we send it to them?