

Graham) has further thoughts in connection with the matter, I shall be glad to answer him, if possible, a little later on.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Would my honourable friend indicate the sections that deal with the two matters he referred to?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: If we are to discuss those, we should perhaps move the House into Committee. I shall have to look them up, but I know the information that I gave my right honourable friend to be correct.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable members, this Bill touches the fiscal policy of the Government, which has obtained a general mandate to increase the tariff. Its policy is high protection. As we know, there is a difference of opinion as to its benefits and effects. It is always dangerous to predict, but it may become necessary to reverse that policy if the countries with which we are desirous of dealing take a stand similar to ours. We may have a smaller volume of exports, which, in turn, may result in reduced production, and thus the whole country may be seriously affected. We may obtain a greater hold on our domestic market, but the great question is, What will be the gain, or what will be the loss? Experience only will reveal the effect of this policy of high protection. From one angle it has certain advantages; from another it has disadvantages.

It is useless to re-open the question of freer trade versus protection. I emphasize the expression "freer trade" because we have had very few out-and-out free traders in this country. Canada has always maintained a tariff, whether for revenue or for protection. I hope that the country will not suffer from the experience on which we are entering. It will be some few years before any development becomes noticeable.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I suppose that, as a matter of fact, this tariff except for recent changes, has been in force for some months. A tariff goes into force when the Finance Minister rises to present it. There is no desire on the part of any of us to change the tariff.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: The particular objection to this tariff is that it is not high enough.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Well, the honourable gentleman might move an amendment. I have no objection personally to the policy of the Government. The people say they want this policy, and they are entitled

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to have it. In matters of detail there might be questions as to how it is to be worked out. I would say to the Government, be careful not to take away the rights of Parliament on the tariff by leaving changes, up or down, to be made by Order in Council.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: There is just one point that might be mentioned for the benefit of my honourable friend from Saint John (Hon. W. E. Foster), who spoke about the desirability of encouraging the entry of goods through Canadian ports. Honourable members will find that point emphasized in section 3, referring to goods transhipped en route, which goods, if shipped on a through bill of lading, may by special concession enter ports of Canada.

Hon. JOHN LEWIS: Honourable senators, I do not want to discuss the tariff in detail, but I should like to speak generally about the changes. They represent what might fairly be called a revolution in the practice in regard to the tariff—a departure from what has been the policy not only of the Liberals, but of both parties, for thirty-five years. During all that time we were under what might be called a tariff of moderate protection. Between 1911 and 1921, when the Conservative Government was in power, there was no great increase of the tariff for protection purposes, the tariff being fixed rather with the object of raising revenue for the war. The question then arises whether that policy was such a failure as to demand the changes—which I regard as revolutionary—that have been made in the last few months. My reading leads me to believe that exactly the reverse is true.

Between 1901 and 1930, I think, the products of our manufacturing industries grew in value from half a billion dollars to more than four billions; in other words, they increased more than eight times. During the same period our foreign trade, and our exports also, increased more than six times; and other figures showing the progress of the country tell the same story.

Now we have embarked on an entirely new policy, which to my mind is something of an experiment. I am not going to predict the result, but I should be very much surprised indeed if, supposing we continue that policy for thirty years, anything like the same gratifying results can be shown as have been shown under the policies of both parties for the last thirty years.

Hon. N. A. BELCOURT: Honourable gentlemen, I am not going to discuss this Bill, either in general or in detail. I rise merely