

me to be very unsound business to reduce the rate by three and one-quarter cents on bacon, heavy bacon or whatever type of pork you like, while we are struggling to find a market for our good bacon.

Mr. DUNNING: Perhaps it will comfort my hon. friend, who apparently sees at the border line quantities of meat waiting to tumble into Canada, when I tell him that the figures for January, which are the latest available, indicate that we imported, of all meats, \$10,000 worth in January, 1935, and only \$7,000 worth in January, 1936. I do not think either figure is sufficient cause for the great alarm expressed by the hon. gentleman.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): I do not want to delay the committee, nor do I want to bore the minister with my alarms, but may I point out that you cannot produce bacon in a month.

Mr. DUNNING: This is not bacon; this is all meat.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Well, you cannot produce meat in a month.

Mr. DUNNING: The farmers have been waiting to produce it, have they?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): The minister knows, because he was at one time a farmer, and he is now framing the farmers with an agreement like this. Everyone knows that the year before last the United States destroyed more hogs than Canada produced for the market, and since their prices for bacon and meats have started to rise they have turned now almost as strongly the other way and are planning for a greatly increased production. We have enjoyed higher prices in Canada every year, due to the imperial trade agreements. We have had the most stabilized price for bacon since confederation, because of those trade agreements, and while we have not provided the full quota yet, the effect has already been felt in the stockyards. Ask the stockmen who sell in the Toronto stockyards about the effect already, of the American trade agreement, and the uncertainty it has created. I only wish to point out that probably by this time next year matters will be serious, because the Minister of Finance and every other man who has ever farmed or produced any hogs knows very well that you can produce bacon very rapidly; in fact the former Minister of Agriculture from this side of the house was twitted very often by the ex-Minister of Agriculture from the other side with encouraging increased production of bacon. For two or three years we have been encouraging increased production in Canada, and the result has been felt here, and will be felt in the United States. I regard this as one of

[Mr. W. E. Rowe.]

the most unfair parts of the agreement. I think we were entitled to a greater reduction than we have received in respect of our bacon going in to the United States, at such times as we might have it to market there.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Listening to the hon. gentleman's remarks in regard to this item makes one think of what weird arguments protection can give rise to in order to try to bolster up an old discredited policy that has been in effect in this country for some time. Imagine, Mr. Chairman, any man standing in his place in this house and telling us to-day that the United States are commencing to produce hogs for all they are worth—

An hon. MEMBER: Are they not?

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): —throwing them on the Canadian market, and killing the Canadian farmers' market. And he brings up along with that the idea that a year or two ago many millions of hogs were slaughtered in the United States.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): So they were.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Why did they not put them on the world market in competition with Canadian hogs at that time?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Because we had a tariff against them. Because the present leader of the opposition raised the tariff to protect the producers of this country.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): Then why did they not put them on the world market?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Because we had the imperial trade agreements, which the hon. member's party opposed. That is why.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): We are told that a year or two ago the United States would far rather slaughter hogs than sell them. Now that we have a trade agreement with the United States we are told that they are going to use it to ship hogs and other commodities into Canada and thereby ruin the farmers of this country. As regards tariffs for our Canadian farmers, let me tell the hon. member and his friends that, after having gone across this country for many years and tried to sell a tariff policy to the farmers, they got the most terrible drubbing that any party ever received on that policy.

Mr. ANDERSON: And you will get it the next time.

Mr. CASSELMAN: You won't be here.

Mr. CAHAN: Your turn is coming.

Mr. ROSS (Moose Jaw): That policy was never any good to the farmer of this coun-