

I mention this fact merely to show how closely interrelated these matters are, so that at that \$16.82 rate, it was entirely out of line; but if the Crowsnest pass rate is put in, the rate will be \$12.47, a reduction of \$4.35, or a reduction on the implement of 25.86 per cent.

The next item was a ten-foot horse rake weighing 460 pounds. The then existing freight rate was \$6.14 for the same movement, Hamilton to Moose Jaw. The Crowsnest pass rate will reduce that to \$4.55, a reduction of \$1.59 or 25.89 per cent.

The third instance given was a six-foot binder with bundle carrier and transport attachments, weighing 1,560 pounds. I give the weights so that my hon. friend can easily check these calculations from the rates, because the rate is so much per hundred pounds. The rate is \$20.83. The Crowsnest pass rate is \$15.44, or a reduction of \$5.39. Surely my hon. friend must see how material this question is. I again ask: Was the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell), when he said, in connection with this debate or used words to this effect, that these people that manufactured these implements would get the benefit of the Crowsnest pass rate? Is that the situation?

Mr. ROBB: Did he say that they would get it or that the western farmer would get it? Who does my hon. friend think would get it?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I will not play with words with my hon. friend. I am not playing at catch words at all.

Mr. FORKE: It makes a great difference to the farmer.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: We do not gain time by senseless interruptions. I am asking a question as to a matter of fact. If my hon. friend says that it is not a matter of moment to the eastern manufacturer to be able to ship his machines in at a much lower rate to western consuming territory than his American competitor can, I will take his answer, but it will be very much at the peril of my personal opinion of his good sense. He knows very well that that is a matter of the greatest importance to every trade. It is idle to play with words. Cannot we get the truth somewhere in this matter? What is the reason for the delay in answering a perfectly plain question? Why are we not entitled to the information?

Mr. MacLEAN (Prince): Is my hon. friend in favour of the reduction?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Are we making these reductions? Of course, I know the

policy of the government is to throw responsibility on everybody and anybody except themselves. But unfortunately we are not running things. I have already said what I think about it. Is there any necessity for my saying it again?

Mr. MacLEAN (Prince): We would like to have an answer to the question.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I have not changed my mind in this brief time, and whatever answer I give will make not the slightest difference to the question of the veracity of the Minister of Agriculture's (Mr. Motherwell's) statement.

Mr. MacLEAN (Prince): I thought my hon. friend was in favour of giving assistance to the manufacturers; apparently he was very anxious to protect them on the duty. This is something that will help them if it goes into effect. He is surely also in favour of helping the consumer in the West. What is his position? We would like to have the logic of his argument.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Just at present I am not arguing at all, I am trying to get facts—the truth—if it is possible; it may be impossible to get this information, but I intend to go on trying. So far as helping the manufacturer or anybody else at the expense of unfair and privileged railway rates is concerned I am not in favour of it, and I have said so many times. What is the use of my repeating it? I have said it plainly enough I should think to get into anybody's head. Am I to get an answer to a question which is absolutely pertinent to these very items and is being considered from time to time in connection with them: Is it true that there is an understanding between the manufacturers of agricultural implements and the government that the old Crowsnest pass rates will be allowed to again come into effect?

Mr. ROBB: Mr. Chairman, if there was before the committee a question as to the price at which agricultural implements had been sold and were to be sold in western Canada, I could understand the argument of my hon. friend. That is not the question under consideration at all. It is purely a question of readjustment of the customs tariff, and my hon. friend is only delaying the information which he seeks, because the government will be prepared in due course to announce its stand upon the question of freight rates. But this is not the proper time to discuss freight rates. Let me remind my hon. friend, who was not in the House at the time, that I was a member of the opposition and had some-