

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): I am not prophesying; I am quoting the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. STEVENS: That is worse.

Mr. DONNELLY: Does not the hon. member think that the fact of having only 10,000,000 pounds instead of 22,000,000 pounds in this country on the 1st of December is the cause of this foreign butter coming in.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): Is that a good argument to put forward in support of opening the door? Is that the kind of policy the hon. gentleman would advocate to encourage the farming industry of Canada? No, Mr. Speaker, he would not dare to go home and advocate that kind of policy in his own constituency. But let me get through with the question from the Minister of Public Works (Mr. King). What guarantee has he that only three or four million pounds will come into Canada this year? The minister must appreciate the fact that Australia is in a position to send twice 4,000,000 pounds into Canada under present conditions; there is not a question or a doubt about it. Oh, but the Minister of Agriculture says, that little bit of butter will not hurt you. That is the same cry this government has been using for years in connection with practically every industry in Canada with which they have interfered. Oh, they say, the little bit of tariff we are taking off will not hurt you. It is that policy, Mr. Speaker, that helped to close two thousand factories in Canada last year; it is that policy that will help to close hundreds more factories in Canada if hon. gentlemen are allowed to carry on their tariff-tinkering policy. That is the policy that has driven six hundred thousand of our people to the United States, to a protected country. That policy is the club that hon. gentlemen opposite are holding over the industries of Canada to-day, and let me tell them that they have interfered with the dairy industry of this country to a greater extent than they realize at the present time. That is the policy that drives capital out of this country. Who would invest a dollar in Canada to-day in an industry that could be affected by the tariff? This tinkering and tampering with the tariff has got to stop.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): May I interject that within ten miles of Ottawa, up the Gatineau, \$18,000,000 is now being invested in the pulp and paper industry?

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): The minister quotes one industry, an industry that hon. gentlemen opposite supported in these

treaty arrangements at the expense of the farmers of Canada; there is not a question or a doubt about it. Every industry in Canada to-day that is affected by tariffs is in jeopardy so long as this government remains in power. They do not know the day or the hour when they may have their industry wiped out. We need to-day stability of tariffs in this country, or we can never forge ahead.

The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) in his speech in this debate, the other day, referring to the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association and the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, said:

I have here a memorandum which was prepared by the Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner. From it I read the following:

"The Dairymen's Association of eastern Ontario met in convention in Kingston on January 6 and 7."

Apparently the turmoil had not reached there; there was no one there to fan the blaze.

"The Dairymen's Association of western Ontario met in convention at London on January 13 and 14. Both these organizations represent producers. At neither convention was the question of the Australian treaty discussed and no resolutions were passed."

I wish the Minister of Agriculture were in his seat, because I would like to emphasize that that statement is a most misleading one. I have positive proof under my hand that the officials of his department refused to submit the question to the convention, stating that it was a political matter and one not to be touched by the association. But the Minister of Agriculture would try to take advantage of that situation; he would lead this House to believe that the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's convention and the Western Ontario Dairymen's convention did not mention this treaty at all. I have positive proof that at both of these conventions numbers of men were most anxious to bring this question up and denounce this government in the strongest possible terms.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I can believe that.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): The minister may well believe it, because he realizes that the dairy industry has been seriously undermined by the treaties which this government have entered into. Let me quote from a statement by one of the largest creamery men in western Ontario:

The dumping of Australian butter on Canadian markets, made possible through the Australian trade pact, which reduced the duty on butter by 75 per cent, from four to one cent per pound, will give the Canadian dairymen "a slap in the face" from which it will be difficult to recover, according to Chas. Johnston, of the Ontario Creamery Company. The effect on the winter dairy industry in the Dominion will be far-reaching and it may take several years for the dairymen to recover from this "body blow."