

mention ad valorem duties, specific duties, excise duties, dumping duties, arbitrary valuations for duty purposes, arbitrary valuation of the pound for duty purposes. We had hoped that the conference might see its way to remove some of these obstacles and clear not only the channels of trade within the British Empire but also those that flow between Canada and foreign nations. That the desire and objective of the conference was to accomplish these things we had no doubt whatsoever. In the mind of every delegate who gathered at that conference there must have been a desire for improved world conditions, to increase the trade not only between the component parts of the British Empire but also among all the nations of the world. But that that desire will be fulfilled, that that objective will be realized, I cannot believe. I cannot believe it because the principle that governed the negotiations was to my mind a wrong principle. In so far as it would lead to a reduction of duties, it was a right principle; in so far as it would result in an increase of duties against foreign countries, I believe it was a wrong principle. No doubt our own delegates had a desire to make such arrangements as would secure to ourselves much business that is now done by foreign nations with Great Britain, and at the same time retain the business that we have been doing in the past with those same foreign nations from which under this treaty we expect to take business.

But what reactions may we expect? Will not new alliances be formed between those nations that we desire to exclude from inter-empire trade? Will not new treaties and new conventions be made by those foreign nations, from which we shall be excluded? What about Germany and France, Italy, Russia, Japan and China? Will all these nations, with their industrious and inventive peoples, so filled with a desire to trade, be willing to bow their heads and say kismet? Will they be willing to fold their hands and say, "It has been decreed by the British Empire that we shall not trade with any of the nations of that empire. We accept the verdict. We must realize that henceforth we shall do less business." I think not. Then what will happen? These nations will say, "If the British Empire is determined to close its doors against us we will find other doors through which we may enter and do the business which our people desire to do." I say that we are inviting reprisals by the additions that are being made in the intermediate and general rates of duty, and we shall see an increase in other countries of this very same spirit of exclusion. We have been saying in Canada: Buy made in Canada goods. Great

[Mr. Butcher.]

Britain has been a little more generous. She has said: Buy British goods from the empire, at home and overseas. Japan has been saying: Do not buy foreign goods. China has been saying: Boycott foreign goods. India has been saying: Buy made in India goods and boycott imports. That is really a spirit that is most undesirable, a spirit that can never be productive of good. But I think the very height of folly was recently exhibited in the city of Toronto. I have a cutting from the Toronto Daily Star which is headed, Clash in Board, and reads as follows:

Controllers Simpson and McBride had a brief but fiery exchange of words in board of control today, following discussion over the equipment for the purification plant at Victoria Park given to W. J. Westaway.

Certain materials have to be purchased outside Canada and Controller McBride strongly objected.

"I'd build a wall around Toronto," he said. "We've got to protect our own industries."

Can you beat that, Mr. Speaker? In Toronto, that big city with its factories anxious to do business not only with the rest of Canada but with the other nations of the world, we find a man so benighted that he says: "I'd build a wall around Toronto." But are we not a little inclined to do the same thing around the British Empire? Is it not possible that we have gone to a dangerous extreme? Certainly we want to do more business within the British Empire, but equally certainly we do not want to do less business with foreign nations.

I referred just now to possible reactions. I have before me the report on Foreign Affairs issued by the Empire Parliamentary Association for the months of July and August, and turning to page 427 under the heading of Scandinavia I read:

At the end of June it was announced that the British firm of Messrs. Dorman, Long and Company had secured a £2,000,000 contract to build a steel bridge connecting the islands of Zealand and Falster. Comments of a conflicting character were published in the Danish press when the announcement was made. On the one hand it was hoped that this would improve trading relations between Denmark and Great Britain, and against that it was urged that the arrangements for the building of a bridge should have been deferred at any rate until the results of the Ottawa conference were made known.

I need not point out the inference; it is perfectly clear. Again under the heading Norway we find this:

As in the case of so many other countries, the government and the public in Norway followed with great interest the proceedings of the Ottawa conference. As soon as the results of the conference were made known, it was announced that the Norwegian government