

was on vigil and his remarks are of the utmost importance. That is why I am glad to quote them. The right hon. gentleman said:

In 1930, the United Kingdom imported 236,934,505 pounds unmanufactured tobacco, of which Canada supplied 3,976,017 pounds, while Canada's total exports for that year were 5,365,869 pounds. In 1929, Canadian exports were 7,244,045 pounds while for the first seven months of 1932 they were 8,941,215 pounds. The maximum Canadian production was in 1931, being 51,300,000 pounds.

Those figures show that the Canadians smoke Canadian-grown tobacco. The right hon. gentleman continued:

Canada's potential production of Bright flue-cured tobacco for five years may be conservatively estimated at 50 per cent increase, and within ten years at 100 per cent increase.

This is only a guess on the Prime Minister's part and there is nothing in it. We are promised a great future for tobacco just as we have been promised a great future for hogs, but this promise is just as empty as the pockets of the farmers. If they do not die of misery in the next five years they will be able to grow 50 per cent more tobacco; if they live for ten years, they will be able to grow 100 per cent more tobacco. I am sure this promise was made in good faith but there is nothing behind it, it is just a potential possibility for the tobacco growers. I should like to have something definite about this matter, I should like to have the particulars in connection with *le petit Quesnel*, *le petit rouge* et *le parfum d'Italie*.

Mr. SEGUIN (Translation): I cannot allow this item to carry without pointing out that I am rather amazed that my colleague the hon. member for South Essex (Mr. Gott), wishes to congratulate the government on the clause inserted in the trade agreements in connection with tobacco, when the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett), explained this part of the agreements, I was astonished to hear him state that the existing duties would be maintained; I can find no changes. I immediately put the following questions to the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Stevens):

1. What were the existing duties on Canadian tobacco entering the British market previous to the agreements entered into at the last Imperial conference?

The hon. Minister gave me the schedule comprising all these duties. I already had them.

2. What are the duties in force as a consequence of the agreements of the last Imperial conference?

To this the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce replied:

That article 7 of the agreements between the United Kingdom and Canada, signed on August 20, 1932, secures for a period of ten years to Canadian tobacco the margin of preference above indicated on foreign tobacco, so long, however, as the duty on manufactured tobacco does not fall below 2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. . . .

That is, the hon. Minister replied that there had been no change and that the preference which existed previously, would be continued for a period of ten years. I wonder, sir, what advantage will the Canadian tobacco grower derive from these trade agreements, since the preference remains the same. It is true that it is contended that our tobacco trade with the empire could be greater, considering the United Kingdom's large tobacco imports. However, if no further preference is given, I cannot see how our tobacco trade with the empire will increase. Our tobacco growers will therefore reap no benefit. The preference existing since 1923, is maintained, and, to make things worse, it is stated that this will be continued for ten years. I think that it is most deplorable for our tobacco growers, and I cannot do otherwise than draw the attention of the government to the fact.

Mr. CAYLEY: Mr. Chairman, there are a few points in this article which I should like the minister to make clear. I notice that the preference to be given is about 49 cents, but no guarantee is given that this preference will be maintained. The article reads:

His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom will invite parliament to pass legislation which will secure for a period of ten years from the date hereof to tobacco—

I shall leave out the next clause because it does not refer to Canada. The article continues:

—grown, produced or manufactured in Canada, the existing margin of preference over foreign tobacco,—

If we stop there we are sure of the 49 cents or the two shillings half penny per pound preference, but we must go on.

—so long, however, as the duty on foreign unmanufactured tobacco does not fall below two shillings half penny per pound, in which event the margin of preference shall be equal to the full duty.

Mr. GOTT: I think the hon. member has not read the article correctly; two shillings half penny per pound is not 49 cents.

Mr. CAYLEY: How much is it?