

The Address—Mr. Dickie

supplying all the needs of finished asbestos material throughout Canada; still, simply because we have not a duty that would keep this product in the country for manufacture here, we sent to the United States last year \$5,000,000 worth of asbestos. At the same time we bought from them \$540,000 worth of finished asbestos goods. I cannot understand the folly of it; I do not see why we allow this state of affairs to continue. I believe that \$5,000,000 of asbestos rock which we shipped to the United States would represent, when fabricated into the innumerable articles into which asbestos enters, something like \$50,000,000. There we have \$45,000,000 lost to this country; it goes to enrich the United States, to add to her prestige and to build up an industrial population there at the expense of Canada. We cannot afford to let such a condition continue. It is true that they might impose an adverse tariff against us on asbestos if we decided to manufacture the product exclusively in Canada, but we must be prepared to stand up against such a hostile tariff and show them that we are a nation determined at all costs to manufacture our raw products.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

After Recess

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. DICKIE: Mr. Speaker, when the House rose at six o'clock I was endeavouring to prove, and I think I did prove conclusively, that our very serious adverse balance of trade with the United States could be reduced, by adopting an adequate protective policy, such as the Americans have against us. I do not suggest that, parrotlike, we should copy the United States; but, as I said earlier in my address this afternoon, I think we Canadians should certainly have greater confidence in ourselves. We should have initiative, we should make history, instead of being content to follow in the train of other countries. With our wonderful wheat lands, with our vast forest wealth, with our great mineral potentialities, with our many water-powers still undeveloped, and with our important fisheries, I ask, Sir, why should we not take the initiative and make this a country which shall be known all the world over as a country whose policies are worth emulating, instead of continuing our present practice of following the example set by our neighbours?

Before six o'clock I had started to discuss another phase of the economic condition—our pulp and paper industry. I may say that

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the figures I am about to give to the House were, in part, submitted by an hon. gentleman last week, but in order to substantiate my argument it will be necessary for me to present some of his figures again, even at the risk of tiring hon. members. In the last fiscal year we manufactured \$133,319,491 worth of paper, and we exported \$41,563,241 worth of pulp, or a total of \$174,884,732 worth of pulp and paper produced in Canada. We exported 28.6 per cent of all the pulpwood we cut. The value we received for that pulpwood was \$14,113,367 odd. If we had manufactured it, we would have created a value of \$50,017,043. I consider that equivalent to a loss to Canada of \$35,903,676. This pulpwood went across the line and gave employment to thousands of American workingmen. A value of \$35,000,000 was created over there. Our good French-Canadian young men, in order to engage in the manufacture of that pulpwood into paper, drifted away from their delightful province—home-loving people as they are, they had to seek employment across the line, drifting away from hearth and home and from the spiritual teaching they received at their mothers' knees and elsewhere. I consider that exodus a tragedy, Sir. We must take steps to prevent a continuance of that movement of our young men across the line if we are ever going to reach the destiny which a beneficent Providence has ordained for us.

According to the report of the Royal Commission on Pulpwood which toured Canada in 1924, it is estimated that our farmers exported 60 per cent of the total of our pulpwood exported to the United States, for which they received \$6,711,000. We have been told that disaster will overtake our settlers and farmers if we do anything to prevent their exportation of pulpwood. The average price the farmers received for their pulpwood, according to the pulpwood commission, was in the neighbourhood of six dollars a cord. In arriving at my figure of \$6,711,000 I have put the price at eight dollars a cord to be absolutely within the mark, although our settlers and farmers in northern Ontario do not receive anything like that price. Now, we lose \$35,000,000 in order to enable those farmers to make \$6,711,000. I do not want to impose any hardship on our settlers, but many of them who say they rely on the sale of pulpwood to establish themselves on their farms are not bona fide settlers, particularly in northern Ontario. Those men go on the land ostensibly as settlers, but after they have taken off the pulpwood they do not attempt in some instances to cultivate the land. They move on, probably repeating the