

Mr. LOGGIE: I fancy every hon. gentleman knows that the United States put an embargo on our potatoes in December.

Mr. BLAIN: What is the matter with your potatoes down there?

Mr. LOGGIE: If I was being questioned under oath I think I could very truthfully say I do not know.

Mr. BURNHAM: How do you propose to abolish the American duty?

Mr. LOGGIE: If this resolution passes, ipso facto the duty is abolished.

Mr. EDWARDS: Would the embargo ipso facto go off?

Mr. LOGGIE: No the embargo is not ipso facto.

Mr. H. CLARK: If reciprocity had gone into effect would that embargo have been put on potatoes?

Mr. LOGGIE: That is not a fair question. I am not administering the affairs of the United States, so I do not know. If there is a reason for the embargo being put on, I suppose it would be put on; and I assume that they had good cause. We would do the same thing in Canada.

Mr. BURNHAM: If the hon. gentleman considers that potatoes are properly embargoed, what is the use of discussing this?

Mr. LOGGIE: I am surprised at my hon. friend asking me such a question as that. He knows very well that next week or next month the embargo may be removed, and that next season we shall have to pay the duty. We could avoid that by passing this resolution to-night—now is the accepted time.

Mr. J. J. HUGHES: I might mention that an official of this Government admitted at the conference in Washington in December last that Canadian potatoes were diseased. It was an unfortunate admission—there was no need of it—which had much to do with the embargo being put on.

Mr. LOGGIE: These potatoes netted the producer forty-two and one-half cents per bushel f.o.b. Canada. In nineteen years out of twenty, potatoes are much dearer on the United States market than on the Canadian market.

Mr. EDWARDS: What was the price on the other side?

Mr. LOGGIE: I have not the prices here, but I can promise you that they were sold on the basis of forty-two and one-half cents

[Mr. Edwards.]

a bushel, plus duty and freight. Of course, I do not know whether they were sold through commission merchants and whether those charges were deducted from the account sales or not.

Mr. EDWARDS: Has the hon. gentleman the importations of potatoes into Canada?

Mr. LOGGIE: Yes, I will give the figures in a few minutes. The potato-raisers, or growers, are men and they do not fear competition from any country in the world. We have the men of brawn and brain, we have the climate, we have the soil and we can compete with the world on potatoes. By these tables the committee will see that in three months we exported to the United States 650,000 bushels of potatoes, of a value of \$270,000.

Mr. EDWARDS: How much did we import?

Mr. LOGGIE: I will give the hon. gentleman that in a few moments. We exported \$270,000 worth of potatoes and the Canadian producers paid into the United States treasury in the form of duty, \$27,008. Let me give the hon. gentleman the information he asks for. This also is a statement prepared by our customs authorities, and it is a table of the imports of potatoes from October, 1912, to November, 1913, both inclusive. The figures are as follows:

Province.	Quantity. Bushels.	Value.		Duty.	
		\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Ontario	245,573	205,974		49,114	60
Quebec	62,193	53,143		12,438	60
Nova Scotia	1,500	1,484		300	00
New Brunswick . . .	152	180		30	40
Manitoba	34,027	29,357		6,800	54
Saskatchewan	4,024	3,563		800	80
Alberta	11,640	8,994		2,338	00
British Columbia . .	32,368	30,530		6,447	36
Yukon	24,533	23,477		4,906	66

We thus find that during a term of fourteen months there were imported into Canada 416,010 bushels valued at \$356,702, and on which a duty of no less than \$83,167.04 was paid.

Mr. EDWARDS: Who paid that duty?

Mr. LOGGIE: The Canadian consumer.

Mr. EDWARDS: And the Canadian consumer paid it when it was exported?

Mr. LOGGIE: No, the Canadian producer pays it then.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. LOGGIE: Hon. gentlemen seem to enjoy that, but I challenge contradiction