

Paper, printing—	
Total imports..	\$525,574
Canada's share..	13,432
Percentage from Canada..	2½%
Value of preference to Canada..	\$6,293
Intermediate	
Goloshes, Rubbers Sand Boots and Shoes & Plimsolls—	
Total imports..	\$94,688
Canada's share..	52,455
Percentage from Canada..	55%
Value of Preference to Canada..	\$12,765
Chassis—	
Total imports..	\$6,118,177
Canada's share..	1,936,574
Percentage from Canada..	31%
Value of Preference to Canada..	\$235,615
Corsets—	
Total imports..	\$599,516
Canada's share..	76,074
Percentage from Canada..	15%
Value of Preference to Canada..	\$18,507
Iron & Steel tubes 3" diameter and less—	
Total imports..	\$790,044
Canada's share..	76,194
Percentage from Canada..	9.6%
Value of Preference to Canada..	\$18,542
Vehicle Parts—	
Total imports..	\$691,267
Canada's share..	155,138
Percentage from Canada..	22.4%
Value of Preference to Canada..	\$37,751
Total..	\$869,058

It will be seen by the schedule that we are giving a preference to Australia on many products, such as cheese, butter and fruits, of which we are large exporters. In spite of being subject to our highest schedule, the United States is the greatest exporter to Canada of some of those goods. Surely we have something to gain by entering into this agreement, inasmuch as we are large exporters and as there is a barrier at the American frontier.

This, I think, is an agreement which will meet with the approval of the country. We cannot stand still. We must give our manufacturers a chance to cultivate new fields for their surplus products, and we cannot obtain concessions without giving something in return. Australia opens negotiations with us handicapped by an immense difference in the importations of the two countries. We believe that we should try to cultivate closer relations with our sister nations, and think this is a step in the right direction.

With these few explanatory remarks I move the second reading of the Bill, hoping that the Treaty will meet with the approval of the Senate.

Hon. E. D. SMITH: Honourable gentlemen, I wish to protest against the principles involved in the reduction of duty to Australia under this Treaty. I have no objection to treaties that would be of benefit to us, especially those with British countries, but the

principles involved in the concessions given here are to my mind entirely wrong. They are that we take the present duties under the general tariff, which in many cases are extremely low, and reduce them to such small figures, and in some cases to nothing, so that they afford very little protection and revenue to the Government. It does not follow that because we wish to give concessions to another country we should damage ourselves. We can give just as great concessions as are involved in this Bill without injuring ourselves at all. Take, for instance, eggs and butter. The duty imposed by the United States on butter is 8 cents a pound, and on eggs 8 cents a dozen. Our duty under the general tariff is 4 cents a pound on butter and 3 cents a dozen on eggs. No harm could have been done by raising our general tariff up to the level of that levied against us by the United States. It would not be necessary to go that high in order to give the Australians the advantages which they will have under this proposed Treaty, of 3 cents a pound on butter and 3 cents a dozen on eggs. We could have raised our duty and given Australia the same preferences without doing any injury to Canadian industry.

It will be noted that all the disadvantages which will be suffered by Canadians under this Treaty are suffered by the farmers. They give everything. Whatever advantage the present tariff affords to farmers of various classes—and it does afford some advantages—is abandoned to enable Canada to send to the Australian market more of those goods which she already exports to that country in very large quantities—in fact, as the Minister has said, to the extent of twelve times as much as we import from Australia. That is to say, in order to increase our exports to Australia, we are to cut off, entirely in many cases, and to reduce in others, whatever advantage exists under our present tariff.

Australia produces meats of all kinds in such quantities and at such low prices that we can hardly expect our farmers to compete with those prices, which are really forced prices; and on those meats the duty has been reduced from the general tariff of 27½ per cent to 15 per cent. On lard, eggs and cheese there is no duty at all. Those are all staple products of the farm. On butter there is a reduction from 4 cents a pound to 1 cent a pound. I maintain that the present duties on those articles are sufficiently low, and that they should have been maintained, and the general tariff raised 3 or 4 cents.

Then we come to canned vegetables. We are trying to establish in Canada a canning