

	Average Rates of Duty on	
	Dutiable imports	All imports
1927.. . . . .	24.1	15.4
1928.. . . . .	24.2	15.5
1929.. . . . .	24.4	15.8
Average for 8 years, Liberals, 1922-1929.. . . . .	24.1	15.6
1930.. . . . .	24.3	15.9
1931.. . . . .	26.0	16.4
1932.. . . . .	29.3	19.7
Average for 3 years, Conservatives.. . . . .	25.1	17.3

Increase in average Mackenzie King tariff, 1922 to 1929, over previous Conservatives tariff, 1917-1921 on dutiable imports 2.2 per cent.

Increase in average Bennett tariff, 1930-32, over previous average Mackenzie King tariff on dutiable imports 2 per cent.

In their first full calendar year in office the Mackenzie King government increased the average tariff by 4.3 per cent, and similarly in the first full calendar year the Bennett government increased the average tariff by 1.6 per cent.

That is somewhat important in my opinion in view of the way in which elections are conducted in western Canada. We were told in the west in 1930 that we must vote for the low tariff party. Had the people done so at that time, they would all have voted Conservative, but they did not. As usual, Mr. Barnum was right; the people like to be fooled. That is why those who believe in low tariffs did not vote Conservative at that time and that is why my hon. friends to the extreme left of the Speaker are smiling now; they realize the truth of that. The Progressive farmer group at that time took the stand that they would not join with the Liberal party, because they in fact were a higher tariff party than were the Conservatives.

Let me now deal with other matters which I desire to discuss. It is always recognized, I think, that the price of wheat in Canada is the life blood of the country. In the district from which I come we have had a series of crop failures for some three years. The situation there has now got beyond the municipalities; they have no more money and no more credit left. It may be truthfully said that if an accurate survey were made of Manitoba, it would be found that all those municipalities where there is actual distress are within my constituency. On the other hand, the moneys of the province and of this dominion have been scattered all over the municipalities of Manitoba; they have not been given out on the basis of need, for if they had been given out on that basis, ninety-five per cent of them would have gone to the constituency of Souris.

In that constituency what is needed at the present time is action. Each day I receive petitions, from the municipalities of Edward,

[Mr. Willis.]

Arthur, and Brenda in particular, and other municipalities within that area urging that action be taken. I received to-day a resolution from the Melita board of trade asking that action be taken at once. They point out that if action is not taken, the people themselves will be on relief and will be thrown upon the public treasury. The cost of such action is small, providing it is measured by need and applied under proper supervision. There is only a small territory there in distress, but that territory needs action at the present time. Due to the difficulties that have recently existed in Manitoba, there does not seem to be any coordination to bring about the desired result.

I could cite the action taken by this government in regard to relief and it appears to me that the government has placed in that province sufficient moneys if they were properly given to the people in need. For instance, from January 1, 1932, to March 16, 1933, we find there has been a total advance to Manitoba of \$15,432,496.59, on which has been credited as having been paid back, \$2,916,434.85. On direct relief there has been paid to that province \$1,839,717.73; public works amounting to \$2,542,821.47 have been undertaken and paid for and there have been advances and loans amounting to \$10,910,629.45. Those are moneys which have been advanced by the Dominion government to the province of Manitoba.

Due to the crop failure, debts in that particular locality are beyond payment. The mortgage companies have been acting very well inasmuch as they have not forced foreclosures. But what the mortgage companies seem to have overlooked is the absolute incapacity on the part of the farmers to pay