

HON. H. B. BERNETT

Leader of Conservative Opposition

RE: RECIPROCIITY

1928

"The reason the Conservative party opposed reciprocity was because it meant the establishment of a channel of trade that could be destroyed at the caprice of our neighbour . . . That was the reason we voted against the reciprocity agreement, and that is the reason we destroyed it."

(House of Commons Debates, Session 1928, Vol.2, p.1256)

"When we turn to the record of the party opposite when in opposition, we find that making a strong appeal for support in 1891, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said:

'The reform suggested by the Liberal Party is absolute reciprocal freedom of trade between Canada and the United States.'

"How long would there have been a Dominion of Canada had that policy been carried into effect? Is that my hon. friends' policy today? Is that the goal towards which they are striving? Is that the reason for the tariff being reduced? Is that the reason that they are pursuing the course

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.P. 26, J 4, volume 218, pages C148414-C149379)

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