

CANADA

House of Commons Debates

SPEECH

OF

GEORGE H. BRADBURY, ESQ.,
MEMBER FOR SELKIRK, MAN.

ON

THE WAR BUDGET

In the House of Commons, Ottawa, on Tuesday, March 9, 1915.

Mr. G. H. BRADBURY (Selkirk): I assure the hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Turgeon) will pardon me if I do not attempt to follow him in all that he has said. But I wish to refer to one or two of his remarks which have been in line with remarks made by other hon. gentlemen on that side of the House. He spoke as if the policy "made in Canada" was not a desirable policy to advocate at this time.

Mr. TURGEON: I think the hon. gentleman has misunderstood me. I approved of Canadian-made goods, price being the same; but I pointed out the condition in which we are when the Minister of Finance says: Do not buy Canadian goods; I want the revenue.

Mr. BRADBURY: I do not think the hon. gentleman has improved the matter. What he said was this: To advocate the policy of buying goods in Canada would be to deprive the Minister of Finance of revenue which he expected through his policy. Now, I wish to say to hon. gentlemen on that side of the House that the "made-in-Canada" policy is a policy intended to stimulate the great industries of this country and to give work to hundreds of thousands of men that are idle on the streets of Canadian towns and cities to-day. There is no doubt in my

mind that it is a wise policy. If the Canadian people in days gone by had dealt more directly with their own great industries we should have had a greater industrial Canada than we have to-day. Under the wise protective tariff inaugurated by the great Conservative party in 1878 Canada has prospered. That tariff was denounced by the Liberal party for the eighteen long years when they were in Opposition, but when they attained office they took this policy as their own, and Canada prospered under the protective tariff. The principle of buying goods manufactured in Canada is in keeping with the policy inaugurated by the Conservative party and carried out during all the time it has been in office.

To one who knows anything about the two great political parties of Canada it is interesting to listen to the arguments advanced by hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House. The remarks of the junior member for Halifax (Mr. Maclean) are usually very moderate and very fair, and in listening to the hon. gentleman's speech the other day I was surprised that he had the temerity to make the statements and the charges that he did. He tried to fix on the leaders of the great Conservative party on this side of the House the stigma that rests upon the Liberal party: that of not implementing pre-election pledges. In view of the un-