

ing relations in the British Empire, why have we not adopted the same principle in regard to our trading with the whole world? This is a departure. During the election the Prime Minister explained to the people that the "Canada first" policy was a principle which would prohibit the importation into Canada of any goods which could be manufactured in this country. This is a departure. The preferential margin we have had has gone and I venture to suggest that under the terms of this agreement the concessions offered to manufacturers in the old land will not in the slightest degree do any harm to the highly protected Canadian textile industry. That industry receives more concessions in this agreement than any other interest in the Dominion of Canada. I wonder whether that has anything to do with the financial history of political campaigns in this dominion during the last two years. The day will come when these highly protected industries must not be protected the way they are today, but these high protections must be taken down in the interests of the primary producers and the great consuming masses of the Canadian people.

My seventh objection to this agreement is this: It ties Canada hand and foot for the next five years in seeking trade arrangements involving any of these 223 items on which the dominion has frozen her tariff. That is the most obnoxious and objectionable portion of the whole agreement. Do hon. members from British Columbia, in discussing these alternative markets for British Columbia lumber, think that province can function for the next five years if they are going to be deprived for that period of a possibility of markets in the great republic to the south of us? They know our trade for lumber and copper is in the United States, and while I appreciate and approve developing as far as we can the alternative market in Great Britain, such approval does not preclude us from endeavouring to influence the United States, possibly with a new party in power and a new policy, from granting us in British Columbia more favourable rates for our lumber, copper and other primary products. They have locked the door and barred the gate, and I venture this prediction, that unless the Canadian people through the Canadian parliament inside of five years alter these agreements, you are going to witness a complete destruction of the lumber industry in the province of British Columbia. There is nothing here for the people whom I hope I am here to represent, the ordinary plain people, the consumers

who are struggling against terrible conditions at the present time.

The undertaking given by the United Kingdom to Canada could I believe have been as readily obtained by a continuance of the system of voluntary mutual preferences, whereby Great Britain would extend preferences from time to time as she put customs tariffs into force. I wish to say to my hon. friends from British Columbia and the other provinces: Let us offer our voluntary preferences to Great Britain generously as announced by my right hon. leader the other day, and I will guarantee that if we do so, then without any bargaining, without any fixed agreement such as this, we shall get better terms for our lumber, our wheat, our fisheries, our lead, our copper and our zinc, and for all our primary producers.

My ninth objection is this: The spirit of bargaining has already brought disruption and discord and constitutes a distinct menace to empire unity. That must be apparent. Here we are having attacks made upon Canada in the British house and attacks made upon Great Britain in the Canadian house. I ask, is that conducive to harmony and unity of the British Empire in days to come?

Mr. EDWARDS: Don't worry about that.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I am worried about it because I feel that all our constitutional freedom dating from the Balfour formula of 1926 and developed by the Imperial conference committee of 1929 is in danger of destruction by the fiscal shackles that we are placing on Canada in these agreements.

My tenth objection is that this agreement affords no relief and no genuine promise of relief to those engaged in basic industries or to the consuming population of this country. On the contrary it rivets upon them the burden of this system of excessive tariff imposts.

My next objection is that it constitutes an attempt to set up an imperial economic unit, and it imperils our fiscal autonomy.

My next objection is that the concessions offered to us in the British market are vague and illusory and will afford no real assistance to producers of Canadian natural products.

My next objection is that the agreement fails completely to remove the three per cent excise extra-tariff tax and the unfair duties imposed against the depreciated British pound.

My fourteenth and, temporarily at least, my last objection to this iniquitous agreement