

vernment who controls the destinies of the country.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that the duty of this government is clear. They should not wait another year to effect the changes that are necessary, the changes that we all know well should be given immediately. That binder twine industry should be helped immediately and forthwith; the cement industry should be helped immediately and forthwith; the woollen industry should be helped immediately and forthwith; and other industries I might mention with which the Finance Minister is familiar, should every one of them have the assistance they require right now. Do not wait until these industries have gone down, do not wait until the capital is lost, save it now. Let this government recognize its responsibility, and recognize it quickly. They have delayed from day to day to bring down the most important piece of legislation that comes before this House, and I say even now, while we are in the dog days, let them if necessary prolong the session for a day or two in order that they may save millions of capital, and that it may continue to employ in the industries of this country the bone, and sinew, and muscle of the Canadian mechanic and artisan, than whom there is no one who should demand better at the hands of this government or any other government.

Mr. H. S. CLEMENTS (West Kent). Mr. Speaker, I crave the indulgence of this House for a few moments while I consider the question of the tariff, in my view one of the most important questions that this government has to deal with. Now that the Minister of Finance has brought down his budget, I want to congratulate him upon his able address, and the skillful manner in which he has made the best of a bad job. I want also to congratulate the hon member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) and the hon. member for Bantford (Mr. Cockshutt) for their splendid criticisms of the budget. I say that I regard the tariff as the most important question this House has to deal with, because we cannot expect to be prosperous as a Dominion unless we have a proper tariff. I want to put myself on record as opposed to the present tariff, because it is opposed to the interests of the masses of our people. The first plank in my policy is that of Canada for Canadians. I do not believe in a tariff policy which works for the interests of foreigners rather than for the interest of Canadians.

I have been all my life interested in farming operations and in the manufacture of woollens, and from that standpoint I think I have ample reason to complain of

the tariff imposed against those industries. I propose to discuss the present tariff. I contend that the present tariff is opposed to the interests of the great masses of our people. The masses of our people are farmers, mechanics and labourers, and I consider that their interests are neglected by the present tariff. I am going to crave the indulgence of the House for a few moments in order to discuss some of the issues pertaining to my own district, and to the Dominion at large; I propose to compare the tariff on imports and exports, also the Canadian duty and American duty of farm stuff brought down by a return I asked for in this House which is official showing the imports of American farm stuff brought into Canada against our own Canadian farm stuff. In order to show the disadvantage that our Canadian farmers are labouring under as compared with American farmers. I shall take only a few items as samples of the whole, but those that I do give are fair samples of the whole list.

	Canadian Tariff.	American Tariff.
Wheat	12c. per bush.	25c. per bush.
Oats	10c. " "	15c. " "
Barley	12c. " "	30c. " "
Corn	" " "	15c. " "
Beans	15c. per bush.	45c. " "
Peas	10c. " "	40c. " "
Buckwheat	10c. " "	15c. " "
Flour	60c. per bbl.	\$1.37 per bbl.
Cornmeal	10c. " bush.	29c. per bush.
Hay	\$2 " ton.	\$4 " ton.
Apples	40c. " bbl.	75c. " bbl.
Potatoes	15c. " bush.	25c. " bush.
Binder twine	" " "	35 per cent.
Sugar	3c. per lb.	1c. per lb.
Butter	4c. " "	6c. " "
Eggs	3c. per doz.	5c. per doz.
Cheese	3c. " lb.	6c. " lb.
Horses (\$100)	\$20	\$30.
Cattle (\$40)	\$ 8	\$11.
Meats (ham & bacon)	2c. per lb.	5c. per lb.
Poultry (dressed)	1c. " "	5c. " "
Poultry (live)	1c. " "	3c. " "
Tobacco	Free " "	35c. " "

Free American, 35 per cent.

Wool practically free upon all grades, American from 12 to 35 per cent.

Hides free, American 15 per cent.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I shall submit to you a comparison of imports and exports as between the two countries and also the goods imported on the free list.

The following tables will show the comparison for different classes of agricultural produce—for the two years 1903 and 1904 :