

Agricultural Products Act

the year I was dealing with when I touched upon this question before, namely, the year in which we went to Britain in order to negotiate quotas under the 1932 agreements, Great Britain produced dessert and cooking apples to the amount of 156.4 thousand tons in 1937-38.

Mr. Case: Tons?

Mr. Gardiner: Yes, tons.

Mr. Case: The other figures you were quoting were hundredweights.

Mr. Gardiner: And these are in tons.

Mr. Fulton: That makes it easy to compare.

Mr. Gardiner: My hon. friend can multiply by one hundred and twelve. I think he is old enough to do that. Great Britain does not grow very many dessert apples, but some are grown. They grow cooking apples and cider apples. In 1937-38, Great Britain grew 156.4 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples and 59,000 tons of cider apples. The whole chart will be on the record. I am not going to give all the figures, just enough to indicate a trend. In 1938-39 Britain grew 86.4 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples and 44.4 thousand tons of cider apples. In 1940-41 it amounted to 280.2 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples and 48.4 thousand tons of cider apples; in 1943-44, 327.4 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples and 78.1 thousand tons of cider apples. Coming down to 1946-47, 360.5 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples, or a little better than double what they were in 1937-38; and 110 thousand tons of cider apples or again just about double what they were back in 1937-38. Coming down to 1947-48, 618.8 thousand tons of dessert and cooking apples and 106.1 thousand tons of cider apples. In other words, while back in 1937-38 they were producing 156.4 thousand tons, in 1947-48 they were producing 618.6 thousand tons. If that is not an indication that the British in the meantime have done something about the production of apples, then I do not know what statistics mean.

I will hand the table to *Hansard*.

| | Production 000 tons | |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Dessert and Cooking | Cider |
| 1937-38 | 156.4 | 59.0 |
| 1938-39 | 86.4 | 44.4 |
| 1939-40 | 453.0 | 106.0 |
| 1940-41 | 280.2 | 48.4 |
| 1941-42 | 163.0 | 31.7 |
| 1942-43 | 375.4 | 58.9 |
| 1943-44 | 327.4 | 78.1 |
| 1944-45 | 335.9 | 131.7 |
| 1945-46 | 258.7 | 28.5 |
| 1946-47 | 360.5 | 110.0 |
| 1947-48 | 618.8 | 106.1 |

[Mr. Gardiner.]

It is true that, as you go up and down this table, just as you find in connection with any table with regard to the production of farm products which depends upon the weather from one season to another, in order to get the complete figure you would have to average some three or four years in a period. But all along the line there is an increase, the production of more and more apples, the reason of course being that in Great Britain back in the thirties there was done exactly what my friend who just took his seat says is to be done in British Columbia and just what we are doing at the present time in Nova Scotia. The growers began to take out the trees that were not producing as they ought to produce and they put in others. To begin with, today they have 2,500,000 more trees in Great Britain than they had back in 1937-38. In addition to that they have put in trees, to replace some of those that they had before, which are producing more apples than they produced before. I repeat that their chief reason for doing that was the change in trade policy which took place as the result of the 1932 agreements.

So I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that our friends opposite will have to take some responsibility for the fact that in Britain there is not as big a market for apples today as there was in the years preceding the war. There not being as big a market, neither the Canadians nor any others who depend upon the British market for the sale of their apples will be able to sell as much as they were able to sell before that policy was undertaken; and I do not know why my hon. friends opposite argue otherwise. I have always understood that the good old Tory policy was one of protecting industry within your own country in order to make it grow. And when they forced the British to protect the apple-growing industry in Britain to the extent of ten per cent, apparently their policy worked. And when their policy worked in a country where we were looking for a market, the increased production in that country has denied to us part of the market that we at one time had.

I find my friends across the way trying to switch over from so many of their traditional policies to some other policies that I have come to the conclusion that they themselves are convinced that Toryism is not a very good thing. Someone has been asking—I think it was the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker)—just why it is that the British go to Europe to buy products and why it is that we are not selling them as much as we were a while ago. As I stated on a previous occasion, but apparently my statement was not listened to, one of the reasons why they are going to Europe follows up the policy—