

to Great Britain it has to pay a duty of ten to twenty per cent, while Canadian products and products from other parts of the empire enter free.

Mr. DUFF: Did they not always enter free? Was there ever a duty against Canadian goods entering Great Britain?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. BENNETT: I do not know whether it is desirable to take up the time of this house to give the figures at length as to what has transpired in connection with empire trade. It would perhaps take too long. It is sufficient for my purpose to say that not only has our trade increased with Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, by reason of the agreements that were made, and that were subsequently modified and extended, as this house knows, by amending agreements, in the case of South Africa, but our trade with foreign countries has increased, our trade with France, Germany, Japan and notably with the countries of South America, with Peru, Brazil, and other countries on that continent. So that the entire trade of this country has steadily increased during the last few months, or since we entered into these agreements.

Now let us take a few figures with respect to the general trade situation, in order that there may be no misunderstanding. In the past calendar year we have increased our export trade. For the calendar year 1933 our imports were valued at \$401,254,311, as compared with \$452,614,257, for last year, representing a decline of 11·3 per cent. In those figures I am referring to imports, and hon. members who are familiar with international exchanges know what that must have meant to Canada. Those who know what international balances mean, and understand the necessity for building up balances understand just what is involved by the reduction of our imports and the increase of exports. Every thoughtful man who has to do with banking and commerce knows exactly what that means. This decrease was, however, accounted for by the decrease in imports from non-British countries, which fell from \$324,556,642 to \$268,380,832. The imports from British countries amounted to \$132,873,479 as compared with \$128,057,615 in 1932, an increase of 3·8 per cent. Thus, while we have decreased our imports from the world at large we have increased our imports from British countries. And when you reckon just what that means in terms of stable markets, both for them and for us, this house may have some appreciation

[Mr. Bennett.]

and understanding of the value which attaches to that fact.

But there is something more than that; there is something more. The principal fall in our external trade has been with the United States of America, and the reason for it—if the reasoning of the right hon. gentleman is to be applied at all—is to be found in what he said yesterday. They have raised almost prohibitive tariffs against the world. They have declined to permit other countries to find markets in their country, and they expect to find markets in ours. Let me at this time give a short statement with respect to the proportion of total imports from British and foreign countries. From the United Kingdom in 1932 we bought 20·7 per cent of our needs. In 1933 we bought 24·4 per cent. From the British Empire we bought 28·3 per cent in 1932 and in 1933, 33·1 per cent. From the United States we bought 58·2 per cent in 1932 and 54·2 per cent in 1933. So we have a continuous improvement in our external trade, so far as imports from the British Empire are concerned,—that is, our trade with British countries. I ask this House of Commons, and I ask the country as to whether or not a sure and stable market of the character indicated is not the best assurance that Canada can have for any permanent recovery from this depression.

Let us now turn to exports. Canada's domestic exports for the calendar year 1933 amounted to \$531,474,179, as compared with \$493,808,841 for the calendar year 1932. That is an increase over last year of \$37,665,338 or 7·6 per cent. That increase is almost wholly accounted for by the increase in Canada's exports to empire countries which increased from \$217,156,953 to \$254,899,205, or an increase of 17·4 per cent. The relative proportion of our export trade to British and foreign countries was as follows: To the United Kingdom, in 1932, 36·1 per cent; in 1933, 39·6 per cent; to the British Empire, 44 per cent in 1932 and 48 per cent in 1933; to the United States in 1932, 32·9 per cent, and in 1933, 32·1 per cent, and to foreign countries taken together in 1932, 56·0 per cent, and in 1933, 52·0 per cent.

Therefore, as I have said, as a result of agreements which were entered into in 1932 Canada has been able to expand her exports and to increase her imports from empire countries, resulting in a nearer approach to equilibrium between exports and imports in connection with British countries. In other words, the members of the family have been buying from one another, with marked satis-