

same plane as business between two private individuals. Suppose Farmer Brown said to one of his boys: "That brown horse of ours doesn't match very well with the black; he doesn't get up fast enough. Neighbour Jones has a horse which I think would make a splendid mate for our black horse. You had better go over and trade horses with him but, my boy, I do not want you to do any bargaining—assume a conciliatory approach. Take this horse over to neighbour Brown, put it in his stable and say 'Neighbour Brown, I have brought you this horse and if you choose to send us a horse in return, well and good.'" The boy thinks that is a funny way of doing business, but he takes the horse over and he puts it in the stable and tells neighbour Brown that he has brought him the horse. Neighbour Brown begins to think that old man Jones has gone out of his mind and decides there must be something wrong with the horse he sent over, so he sends in return the old gray mare with the two spavins. The right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) thinks that business between nations should be carried on in a like manner.

During his address the leader of the opposition mentioned the fact that he had attended economic conferences in Great Britain in 1923 and 1926. If that conciliatory attitude had been adopted in 1923 and then continued with increased momentum until 1926, it should have been strong enough by the time 1929 was reached to have enabled Great Britain to take all the surplus Canadian wheat. I am sure the right hon. gentleman had plenty of opportunities during the nine years he was in office to put into effect that spirit of conciliatory approach. I say that the people of Canada were wise last July in selecting as a leader a gentleman who believes in the plain business method of bargaining.

The right hon. leader of the opposition said that conditions are becoming worse. That statement has been made by many other hon. gentlemen who have addressed the house from the opposite side. They state that conditions have been getting worse ever since the present government came into office. Speaking for the county in which I live, I desire to say distinctly that conditions decidedly are not getting worse, neither in the rural part of the county nor in the industrial sections of the town of Cornwall. I was told the other day by a farmer, not of Conservative persuasion, that at last a ray of hope was given to the farmers of eastern Canada by having as Minister of Agriculture a gentleman who is alive to their interests. A program was laid down by this minister and published in a recent issue of *MacLean's Magazine*, which

[Mr. Shaver.]

program will be far-reaching in its effect. It is the program of a man of vision and, as we all know, a man of energy. This farmer advised me that he was getting about the same price for butter fat as a year ago, but he wondered what would have happened if butter had been coming into Canada during the past winter in the same volume as during the winter of 1930, at the rate of 50,000,000 pounds per year.

Mr. POULIOT: May I ask the hon. gentleman a question?

Mr. SHAVER: Certainly.

Mr. POULIOT: Does the hon. gentleman say that no New Zealand or Australian butter came into Canada since October 12, 1930?

Mr. SHAVER: No New Zealand butter.

Mr. POULIOT: No Australian butter?

Mr. SHAVER: A very small quantity came in on the basis of 32 cents a pound.

Before I left home on Saturday I took the trouble to inquire into the average grade price of eggs, and I found that it is two cents less than it was a year ago. What would have happened if our market had been flooded with the tremendous quantity of eggs which came in last year? A considerable deflation has taken place in the price of various products, but if American eggs had been permitted to come into this country in the volume they did last year the farmers of eastern Ontario would be getting only about half the price they are getting at the present time. In January, 1930, there were imported into Canada from the United States 529,048 dozens of eggs having a value of \$215,067, and from other countries, 7,800 dozens with a value of \$1,852. In February of last year our imports from the United States amounted to 1,060,922 dozens having a value of \$373,032, and from other countries, 6,454 dozens with a value of \$1,479. In March our imports from the United States amounted to 1,168,073 dozens with a value of \$322,830, and from other countries, 9,440 dozens valued at \$2,408. I will give a comparison between January and February of this year with January and February of last year, because those are the only figures we have for the present year. In January and February last year we imported a total quantity of 1,604,224 dozens of eggs, valued at \$591,430, while for the same period this year when a protective tariff was in force we imported 15,557 dozens valued at \$5,754. Is that not good business for the egg producers of Canada?