However, we can utilize some of the information he gave us. For example, he said that the wages for farm hands in the Argentine were about 64 cents a day, without board, as I understood him. And he said that the rate in Russia was from 40 to 45 cents a day—and Russia is another country whose products will hereafter come free into Canada on this most favoured nation basis. Now, the Argentine Republic has a trade which is larger even than our own. She exports $400,000,000 worth of goods, 90 per cent of which is live stock and agricultural products. Argentina ships to Great Britain six times as much beef as New Zealand and Australia together, and one and a half times as much mutton and lamb. In 1909 Argentina produced wheat to the value of $320,000,000, and exported over 100,000,000 bushels. The flax crop of Argentina is valued at $115,000,000. Cattle, sheep, horses, donkeys and mules as live stock are exported, usually to Great Britain. When you consider that the Argentine is one of the countries that can hereafter ship to Canada, that the Canadian Pacific railway are now arranging a line from Halifax to Buenos Ayres, with cold storage accommodation; that the government are asking us this year to vote a subsidy to a steamship line to the West Indies and South America; that a company is being formed in Montreal for the express purpose of exploiting the business between Canada and Argentina—you will see that the facilities for shipment between Montreal and Argentina in the summer, and between Halifax and St. John and Argentina in the winter in these agricultural products will soon be most excellent, and that we may expect to have our local markets, to a very large degree, supplied by the produce that will come from that country. Be it remembered that the Argentine is peopled mainly by Italians, Spaniards and Germans, who have a scale of living quite inferior to that which our farmers will submit to, and who, as the Postmaster General tells us, are willing to work for 64 cents a day and board themselves. We can see what pressure will be brought to bear on the farmers of Canada to reduce their scale of living and cut their necessities in wages down to the Argentine standard.

How will the products of these three countries coming into Canada in winter especially, affect the home markets on the sea-board? Chilled beef from the Argentine and Australia, frozen lamb and mutton from New Zealand can be laid down in Halifax, St. John or Montreal at ruinous prices. The f.o.b. export price on chilled beef of the entire New Zealand product last year was 5½ cents per pound. With a duty of three cents per pound, we have kept that meat out, for it would cost 8½ cents, plus freight. But with a duty of 1¼ cents that means that it could be laid down in Canada for 7 cents. And this excellent chilled beef from Argentina and Australia, laid down in Halifax, St. John and Montreal, will bring down the price of every beef animal in the eastern provinces. Take, also, the case of New Zealand lamb and mutton. Last year the entire quantity of the New Zealand product exported averaged 6½ cents per pound, and even sold at less. With a protective duty of 3 cents per pound, the price would be 9½ cents, which would be enough to keep it out of our markets. But reduce the duty to 1¼ cents and you bring the price down to 7¾ cents, and you make it possible to lay this lamb and mutton down at 8 cents per pound upon our Atlantic or Pacific coasts, and that is a price which our farmers, who produce for the home market, will be unwilling to accept if they are to compete. Australian butter can to-day be laid down in bond in Montreal at 23 cents. A duty of 4 cents means a price of 27 cents, which is prohibitive. But take the duty off and our farmers will have to get down to 23 cents, the price at which it is possible to bring this Australian butter in. In January, 1909, the Montreal produce men imported 5,000 packages of Australian butter. The market at that time stood at 27½ cents for Canadian creamery. It fell within a month to 19 cents. Eastern township butter makers, who get 25 cents to 26 cents for what is shipped from the eastern townships throughout the west, would have to cut down their prices. To-day a splendid trade is done from the Eastern townships with the west; 100,000 packages go westward every year, and are scattered all along as far west as Vancouver. With reciprocity in force there will be nothing more of that kind. Australian butter coming in from the west and New Zealand butter from the east will each monopolize half our continent, and will meet in competition at Winnipeg.

The same is true at the Pacific coast. There is a large interchange now between Alberta and British Columbia. Meat, grain, dairy products and feed pass west from Alberta to British Columbia, and lumber and fruit pass eastward from British Columbia to Alberta. This trade is profitable to both, and should be continued and encouraged But if this reciprocity measure goes through, chilled beef and mutton from Australia will flow into British Columbia, and there will not be a city or a mining camp in British Columbia that will want a pound of Alberta beef. And the same will be true of butter, cheese, poultry and eggs. New Zealand butter can be laid down in Vancouver at 24½ cents but, with the present duty, 28½ cents, this is prohibited. The millers of British Columbia will grind Antipodean wheat, for they will not pay the