

these importations have been dwindling until last year they were the lowest in the history of the country. The danger is now that there will be a steady increase again. In 1930 we imported 11,000,000 pounds of pork in brine and there is grave danger that the same thing will happen again under this arrangement.

Mr. DUNNING: If I can comfort my hon. friend a little, I would point out that the rates under which the importations to which he refers took place were lower than the rate provided under this agreement.

Mr. BENNETT: The Secretary of Agriculture for the United States, whatever he may have meant, said that under this agreement the United States would send into Canada increased quantities of pork. He made that statement at a public meeting in Chicago and I read it into the record of the house. What it means I do not know, but that is his statement for what it is worth.

Mr. SENN: I made an error in my computation. It was in pork alone of different kinds that there were importations of 14,000,000 pounds in 1930, and if that is computed on the basis of hogs, it would require at least 100,000 hogs to make that quantity of pork, so that the figures are worse than they appeared at first.

Mr. DEACHMAN: For several years we imported from the United States certain classifications of thick fat hogs which were used and appreciated, I understand, in the mining camps and in the lumber woods of Canada; and because of the importation of that product, which we brought in at a lower price, we were able to make a corresponding increase in the export of high grade bacon to Great Britain. If we choose to use American pork and like it, and can by importing that pork sell our own product which brings a higher price in the markets of the world, I as a Scotchman see no reason why this should not be done.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Then we are to understand that it is the policy of the government to bring in through the back door a fat coarse type of pork while we send out of the front door pork of a better quality?

Mr. DEACHMAN: Would not my hon. friend do that if he had an opportunity?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): I would propose a policy to produce the pork at home.

Mr. DEACHMAN: Even the coarse fat stuff?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): That is our trouble; we produce too much coarse fat stuff now.

I have not the figures before me, but is it not a fact that the duty has been reduced on bacon, hams and shoulders from five to 1½ cents per pound under this agreement?

Mr. DUNNING: That is not in the schedule.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): In the intermediate tariff?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): In the agreement with the United States we have reduced the duty on bacon, hams and shoulders, imported from the United States, from five to one and three-quarter cents per pound. It has been admitted by some hon. members, by the Minister of Finance himself, that this agreement has been negotiated at the expense of the industrial life of Canada, and the Prime Minister has emphasized its contribution to agriculture. I would ask hon. members whether they can find in the agreement any great advantage for the farmers, especially the bacon producers, of Canada, in view of the possible increase in production encouraged by the late government and still encouraged by the Department of Agriculture, seeing that those producers have now to face the competition of the United States, in which production is being increased by thousands and thousands. Indeed, production is being increased there by between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 extra brood sows. The United States destroyed more hogs three years ago than we produced at that time, and now the duty is being lowered three and one-quarter cents per pound on the product, with falling prices. It is no wonder that prices are cheaper for cattle and hogs to-day than before the trade agreement came into effect; nor is it any wonder that the farmers are alarmed, in view of the uncertainties of the situation, at the effect the agreement is going to have in every stockyard from coast to coast. If there is one glaring example of the serious effect of the agreement, it is in this reduction from five to one and three-quarter cents on pork coming into Canada, when we have been struggling for an export market. If the government has not yet done so, it should consider now the effect of this agreement on the renewal of the imperial agreement. As the leader of the opposition has said, Secretary Wallace of the United States, if he has not alarmed this government, has at any rate alarmed the hon. Mr. Elliot of the British government, who foresees difficulties in connection with the renewal of the imperial trade agreement with Canada. It is true that we have not provided our full quota under the imperial agreement, but it does appear to