

Twelve other countries were granted tariff concessions similar to that extended to France by this government in the year 1923. I have given a statement of the total amount of farm products that came in from Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands as amounting practically to \$1,000,000 in 1925. The imports from France amounted to \$224,264. So that taking these three countries and France together,—I have not time to go into the imports from other sources—we find that there came into this country in that period \$1,223,906 worth of farm products that could be grown in Canada. This has helped to undermine agriculture in this country.

Mr. BOTHWELL: Did I understand the hon. member to say that he was quoting from statistics prepared up to March 31, 1925, or has he given importations since the treaty came into effect?

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): The treaty was adopted in 1922 and I have given the imports during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1925. Some of our western friends, and particularly the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Neill) who spoke this afternoon, appeared to be intensely interested in the fishing industry. Let me tell the hon. member that we have been importing into this country enormous quantities of fish, these importations have taken away from the returns of the industry in Canada. The importations of fish from Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands amounted last year to \$646,296, and from France \$41,513.

I wish to deal now with the condensed milk trade, which has been very seriously interfered with by the operation of this treaty, as pointed out by my worthy leader (Mr. Meighen). In 1922 we shipped from Canada to France 4,369,900 pounds of condensed milk and this left to our milk factories in Canada \$568,193. Surely that is an item that is worthy of the consideration of this government at the present time. In 1923, however, after the treaty had come into force, we shipped out only 60 pounds of condensed milk, or \$23 worth. Let hon. members bear in mind that these figures have been prepared by the statistical branch in the manner I have indicated. In 1925 we exported 88,900 pounds or \$7,140 worth. The Franco-Canadian treaty, I may observe, was formally entered into on December 15, 1922, but it did not come into force until September 5, 1923.

Let us now consider the dairy industry of this country. The total amount of butter manufactured in Canada amounted last year to 275,000,000 pounds in round figures,—no inconsiderable industry. We ex-

[Mr. J. E. Armstrong.]

ported of that total 25,000,000 pounds and consumed in the home market in Canada 250,000,000 pounds. So much for the home market. In storage a few weeks ago we had 10,000,000 pounds on hand as compared with 22,000,000 pounds last year at this time. What a blessing to have only 10,000,000 pounds in storage. Is there a business man who, if he had charge of the whole dairy industry of Canada, would not be delighted to find his industry in that position? And is it not a wise thing for our exporters to clean up the market in Canada and ship out the product during the warm season? But this government opens the door wide and allows a country which is producing enormous quantities of this very article to send its products into Canada at the very time when our farmers should be receiving a high price for their butter. Why do I say that our farmers should get a high price for that butter? Simply because they are compelled to house their cattle and feed them and care for them in a special manner during winter, thus being obliged to spend a good deal more money than do the farmers of Australia and New Zealand, who can allow their cattle to run at large all the year round. We want to remember that millions of dollars have been spent in Canada in an effort to develop the dairy industry of this country. Winter dairying is being encouraged by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell), as by every other minister of agriculture, and now, after we have educated the farmers to go into winter dairying and they have prepared their barns and buildings for the development of this industry, along comes the government and opens the door, and lets in products from a country that has now reached its flux production so far as butter, cheese and dairy products are concerned. Oh, but the Minister of Agriculture estimates that only four million pounds will come into Canada during the present year.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Less than that.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): The Minister of Public Works says, less than that.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): The minister's estimate was less than that.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lambton): He gave the figure of 4,000,000 pounds, but we will take it at less than that if the Minister of Public Works says so. But what assurance has the Minister of Public Works that not more than 4,000,000 pounds will come into this country during the present year?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I have the same assurance that you have; you are just prophesying.