

than \$1,000. I said to him: The thirty-seventh man must be a happy man; but I discovered that he was only happy because he had not yet received his patent from the Crown and he, therefore, could not mortgage the farm. I was acquainted with these farmers to which my friend referred, and nothing surprised me so much as when he told me that such and such parties had mortgages upon their farms, for I was always of the opinion that they were in a prosperous condition and doing well. Let me give you a few figures here in regard to chattel mortgages, which I take from the official statement prepared by order of the Ontario Government. In the County of Brant, from which my hon. friend (Mr. Paterson) comes, out of 437 chattel mortgages there are 238 on the farms. In the County of Essex, out of 540 chattel mortgages 345 are on the farms. In the County of Grey—represented by the gentleman who speaks so eloquently from East Grey (Mr. Sproule), let him listen and learn—out of 1,130 chattel mortgages 921 are on the farms. In the County of Hastings, out of 833 chattel mortgages 589 are on the farms. In the County of Middlesex, out of 723 chattel mortgages 316 are on the farms; Middlesex is doing pretty well in comparison. In the County of Victoria, out of 352 chattel mortgages 257 are on the farms. In the County of Wellington, out of 497 chattel mortgages, 317 are on the farms. We, therefore, find that over 60 per cent. of the chattel mortgages in each county rests against the chattels of the farmers, and we find that on the authority of an official document prepared by the order of the Legislature of Ontario.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

### After Recess.

#### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Bill (No. 52) to incorporate the MacLeod Irrigation Company.—(Mr. Davis, Alberta.)

#### SECOND READINGS.

Bill (No. 128) to incorporate the Incorporated Construction Company of Canada.—(Mr. Wallace.)

Bill (No. 129) to incorporate the Manitoba and Assiniboia Grand Junction Railway Company.—(Mr. Davin.)

Bill (No. 130) to incorporate the Chatsworth, Georgian Bay and Lake Huron Railway Company.—(Mr. Taylor.)

Bill (No. 135) further to amend the Act respecting the London Life Insurance Company.—(Mr. Moncrieff.)

#### WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron.) When you left the Chair, Mr. Speaker, I was concluding my arraignment of the National Policy. I will conclude that arraignment by a corroboration from a man who is well known to every public man in this county: a man who has been in public life for many years, and whose ability is acknowledged by friend and foe; a man whose eloquence has often been heard inside of this House, and whose opinions have been quoted by both sides of the House upon every great question upon which he gave an opinion; a man who has received particular prominence at the hands of the Liberal-

Conservative party, especially this session: a man whose abilities have been more highly appreciated by them this year than they have ever been before; and I am sure that when I mention the name of that gentleman, hon. gentlemen will acknowledge that whatever opinion he has expressed on this great question is entitled to much weight. I have pleasure in quoting the opinion of the Hon. Edward Blake upon the effects of the National Policy, in corroboration of what I have said this afternoon. In his letter to his late constituents in West Durham, he set forth his views on this subject in very plain and positive language. Speaking of the National Policy in that letter, he says:

"Its real tendency has been, as foretold twelve years ago, towards disintegration and annexation, instead of consolidation and the maintenance of that British connection of which they claim to be the special guardians. It has left us with a small population, a scanty immigration and a North-West empty still; with enormous additions to our public debt and yearly charge, an extravagant system of expenditure, and an unjust and expensive tariff; with restricted markets for our needs, whether to buy or to sell, and all the host of evils (greatly intensified by our special conditions) thence arising; with trade diverted from its natural into forced and, therefore, less profitable channels, and with unfriendly relations and frowning tariff walls, even more and more estranging us from the mighty English-speaking nation to the south, our neighbours and relations, with whom we ought to be, as it was promised we should be, living in generous amity and liberal intercourse. Worse, far worse. It has left us with lowered standards of public virtue and death-like apathy in public opinion; with racial, religious and provincial animosities rather inflamed than soothed; with a subservient Parliament, an autocratic executive, debauched constituencies and corrupted and corrupting classes; with lessened self-reliance and increased dependence on the public chest and on legislative aids, and possesses withal by a boastful jingo spirit far enough removed from true manliness, loudly proclaiming unreal conditions and exaggerated sentiments, while actual facts and genuine opinions are suppressed. It has left us with our hands tied, our future compromised, and in such a plight that, whether we stand or move, we must run some risks which else we might have either declined or encountered with greater promise of success."

Now, his arraignment of the whole National Policy thoroughly endorses every position I have taken this afternoon. It only remains to me, as far as my arraignment is concerned, to recapitulate the points I have proven this afternoon. I have proven that the National Policy has not increased our foreign trade. I have shown that it has not increased prices of farm products. I have shown that it has increased the prices of many goods manufactured in this country and largely used by the poorer classes. I have proven that the National Policy has failed to prevent the exodus of our people by thousands into the United States. I have shown that it prevents our farmers from selling in the dearest and buying in the cheapest markets, and I have proven that under it the value of farm lands have greatly decreased. If that is not a sufficient arraignment, supported by the best authorities, what more can be required to condemn any system or policy of such a character? But, passing from the consideration of the National Policy, we are frequently asked, what policy has the Liberal party to present to the country? Well, Sir, we have that policy which is known as an enlargement of the trade relations between this country and the United States. That is our policy; we do not define it down to the very articles that will be permitted to come into this country and to go into the other, but we, as a Liberal party, have always proclaimed, on the public platform and in the Legislatures of this country, that we are in