

*The Budget—Mr. Campbell*

The Premier also made a plea for the merging of the forces of the low tariff in the west to fight the common enemy of high protection led by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen.

On the same platform the present member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Ross) said:

The Conservative party says, "We will tax you more by our tariff proposals." Proudly the high protection flag is being flown by Mr. Meighen and his party. "We will tax you more," they say, "so that the rich men of the east may have better limousines and more sumptuous living."

On the same platform the then Premier of Saskatchewan the present Minister of Railways (Mr. Dunning), made this statement:

"No one will question one fundamental in so far as the tariff is concerned", said Mr. Dunning, "and of all the individual taxes which our people bear, this one of the tariff is the highest and one which brings no advantage to the people of the province."

Yet, only a short time earlier, the same hon. gentleman speaking in Ontario, made haste to reassure the people that he was not a free trader. At Pembroke, Ontario, on August 10, 1925, of the same year, he said:

I have been described as a free trader. I am not a free trader.

At the same meeting at Moose Jaw the Prime Minister, at the time he was making his appeal to the Progressives to drop their own candidates and organization and merge with the Liberals in order to defeat the common enemy, uttered these words:

The east asks your representatives to join with them. We ask you to send to our councils men who will work with us in shaping our policies,—

I wonder to what extent hon. gentlemen opposite from Manitoba and Saskatchewan joined with the government in shaping this budget. They are a sadder and a wiser lot to-day, but I am not blaming them; most of them were quite honest. They thought they could revolutionize this party when they came down here in a little bloc, but to-day they must admit it is beyond hope. But let me conclude the quotation:

—because we want the western point of view to prevail with regard to all the questions that apply to our Dominion.

Now I say, in view of all these promises, in view of the appeal that was made to the people of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, this government holds office to-day by fraud and deception.

Mr. BELL (Hamilton): And always has.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I have here some figures taken from Trade of Canada—

[Mr. Campbell.]

Mr. CASGRAIN: I understood the hon. gentleman to say that the government conducting the affairs of this country holds office by fraud and deceit. This language is not parliamentary and should be withdrawn.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I hope I shall be given extra time for these interruptions.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. member will withdraw the expression; it is not parliamentary.

Mr. ROBB: May I say on behalf of the government that nothing which the hon. gentleman can say will hurt them.

Mr. CAMPBELL: In deference to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the expression.

Mr. CASGRAIN: I ask that the hon. member withdraw it.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I have withdrawn the remark, but that does not alter the facts.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. CASGRAIN: The hon. gentleman has not withdrawn it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The withdrawal must be absolute.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I have withdrawn the statement, but I cannot change the figures. Now I wish to quote figures taken from the Trade of Canada—

Mr. CASGRAIN: I understood it to be your ruling, Mr. Speaker, that the words should be wholly withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member withdrew the statement but he added a qualifying remark which I must ask him to retract.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I do not think there is any mistake about the remark having been withdrawn, Mr. Speaker; I withdraw it. Now, there are certain figures which I wish to quote up to the year ending March 31, 1926. I am taking the last five years of the Conservative administration and comparing it with the first five years of the present government's administration. For the five years from 1917 to 1921 inclusive the average rate of duty on dutiable imports was 21.9, while for the five years from 1922 to 1926 inclusive, under this administration, the average rate of duty collected on dutiable imports was 24.06, or a difference under the late Conservative administration of 2.16 lower. We hear a great deal about the high tariff and the low tariff parties in this country, and for some time after coming to this house I wondered which of the two old parties was the high and which was