

any statistics. I ask any man to be his own witness. The best witness is the man who can look and judge for himself, and not the one who takes his information second-hand from other persons. Travel on the trains, anyway and everywhere, especially through the maritime provinces, and you will see with your own eyes the results of the National Policy. The low price of farm products, the depreciation of farm lands, the boarded windows, the vacant farms along the country, are the best evidence that the agricultural interests have not been benefited but destroyed under the influence of the National Policy. And as to the mining interests of the country, I think it is unnecessary for me to say one word, because no person will have the hardihood to stand up here, and say they have been benefited by the National Policy. But the manufacturing industries—oh, the manufacturing industries of this country. The National Policy was to erect tall chimneys all over the country. The hum of the factory was to be heard all over the land; and whatever else should be the result of the National Policy, that was sure to follow. The other evening we heard the Minister of Public Works, in his attempt to prove the benefits of the National Policy to our manufacturing interests, say that to-day we have 75,000 industries in Canada as the result of that policy. That same tale and those same figures were repeated to-day by the hon. member for Westmoreland (Mr Wood). It is easy to give the number, but when hon. gentlemen opposite are asked to point to a given province or given county or city and show where these manufactories exist, they are dumb. Take the province of Nova Scotia, and let them enumerate the manufactories which have arisen there under the National Policy. The House will pardon me if I, for the moment read a few extracts from the speech of the hon. member for South Oxford, delivered a few days ago. This will save time, and it puts the case in a nutshell. He says:

Nova Scotia is specially privileged. Of the 223 knitting factories, 99 were developed in Nova Scotia. And more than that, of the 99 developed in Nova Scotia, 93 were developed in the county of Shelburne. I find, on further examination, that the 93 industrial establishments in the shape of knitting factories in the county of Shelburne, employed collectively 126 hands. I find further, on the same page of the census, that they earned in that year, \$1,833, being at the rate of \$14.55 per year for each hand, or 28 cents a week, and 4½ cents a day. I find that in Quebec, in the county of L'Assomption, there were 12 industrial establishments known as knitting factories, employing collectively 12 hands, earning an average of \$63 a year, being at the rate of \$1.20 per week, wherewith, I suppose, to discharge the wages of superintendents, the cost of finding power, and dividends to the company. Portneuf is equally favoured. It has 12 establishments, which average \$90 per year in wages, or \$1.60 per week. Now, I find here that the machinery and tools employed in each factory are given; and it may interest the hon. member for

Mr. McISAAC.

Shelburne (Mr. White) to know, that the 93 knitting factories in Shelburne actually consumed for machinery and tools, a total of \$623, being at the rate of \$7 per factory for machinery. Now, I want to call the attention of the House to this fact. We are told there were 25,000 new establishments; I have shown you what some of these consist of. I have analysed these further, and I find that out of the 223 knitting factories, there may possibly be 30 that deserve the name by a stretch of courtesy. Those 30 pay \$228,000 in wages out of a total of \$322,000. The remaining 193 pay an average of \$200 a year for all purposes. But, Sir, great as the knitting factory is, fine as the work which the National Policy has got in there, finer still is the work which the census commissioners got in there, it pales before the industry of carpet-making. The House will be glad to know, I was glad to know, that there are now 537 industrial establishments for making carpets in the Dominion of Canada. I find, by a reference to the census returns of 1881, that there were only 11 then in existence; we have, therefore, an increase of 546, which is something like—how many thousands per cent? Is it 5,000 or 50,000 per cent. Some of these hon. gentlemen, who are good at it, may occupy their leisure time in making the calculation. Well, Sir, of these 557, 51 are in New Brunswick, under the fostering care of the Minister; and they employ 51 hands, mostly old women. Their collective wages are \$1,792; so that each of them earns \$75 per year, or 70 cents per week. Nova Scotia possesses 106 factories for carpet-making, employing 117 hands, who earn \$62 a year, or \$1.10 per week, according to the census. Prince Edward Island, I am happy to inform my hon. friend, averages \$100 per year. Assiniboia has one factory for carpet-making, paying \$15 per year in wages. Now, I may remark that, of the 213 knitting factories in all the provinces except Ontario, not one appears to average \$100 a year in wages, or, to employ 2 men. The total wages paid in those 213 factories amount to \$14,827, which is not quite \$70 per year each.

It is quite easy to get 75,000 industries when you count such industries as those. Why, a member of the Government, the other day, was compelled to say that even a little boy splitting kindling wood was counted an industry. If you count all the little boys who split kindling wood and put them in the 75,000 list, you will find very few industries of any description left. Oh, but the National Policy, according to the resolution, was to stop the exodus; it was to give employment to our own people at home, and bring back thousands of people who had left Canada before 1878. These were the promises made; these are the exact words of the resolution of 1878. I ask you to compare the promises with the result. How many thousands of people have come back to this country as a result of the National Policy? How many thousands of people have been prevented from leaving this country during the last seventeen years, as was promised, as the result of this policy? The fact is that from 1881 to 1891, no less than 1,200,000 people, more than one-fifth of the present population of Canada have left the country, an average yearly exodus of 120,000 from this Dominion. What is the record with reference to