

Mr. CAHILL: Does the hon. member argue that the raw material is costing him more in Canada than he could import it for?

Mr. COCKSHUTT: On the lower grades, no. The Steel Company of Nova Scotia is able, I think, to produce the lower grades of steel which are used to a large extent, as cheaply or cheaper than they can be bought in the United States. If you take the cost, with the duty added to the price, it would still be cheaper to buy the raw material in the matter of the lower grades of steel largely from Nova Scotia.

Mr. CAHILL: Then where does the hon. member's patriotism come in? Why does he state that it would not be patriotic to buy outside of Canada? If he is buying as cheaply or cheaper in Canada, there would be no call to import from the United States. I took from the argument of the hon. member that he was probably paying a little more for Canadian goods, but that his patriotism would cause him to buy them. Am I correct in my assumption?

Mr. COCKSHUTT: I do not know that a question at issue on the tariff is my patriotism, and it is not a question I wish to dwell upon. I used the term because I believe we should all use Canadian goods where they are as cheap and as good as can be bought elsewhere, and I believe every one will agree that that is a sound policy. It was only in that sense I spoke, and the policy of the manufacturers is to buy all their raw materials in Canada, thus building up our own country, and perhaps if we are not building up our own business, we are building up that of some one who is close to us. I do not want to succeed and see everybody else fail; I want as far as possible to see everybody successful, and for that reason I think the patriotic course of the manufacturer would be to continue to buy his raw materials in Canada so far as market prices will admit of his doing so. I think that is a sound policy.

Mr. ELKIN: I do not want the point I have been endeavouring to make to go by without getting it on Hansard. I used the case of pig iron only to demonstrate the fact that many other things enter into the manufacture of ploughs and reapers and other farm implements, and there is no getting away from the fact that, in rebating 30 per cent to manufacturers of farm implements, a principle is established whereby one-third is added to the present duty on raw material and the protection is made

absolute. If you rebate 30 per cent on the goods you place in the farm implements, you protect the basic manufacturer to the extent of one-third; in other words, he, knowing that he is going to get 30 per cent back from the Government on those goods can add a certain portion of that 30 per cent of the duty to his price.

Mr. HAROLD: He has to take it off, not add it.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: Very little pig iron comes from Pittsburg, because I understand Canada is able to produce pig iron as cheaply as any other country in the world if it has a fair chance, and I hope the iron mines will be brought into such a state of perfection that we can get all our pig iron in this country. To say we are going to buy pig iron in Pittsburg is a proposition which I do not think is likely to obtain. I think we will buy our pig iron in this country, and I would like to see every one else in this country follow a similar course.

Mr. ROBB: Will the reduction in freight rates bring the present rate down to the same basis as prevailed prior to 1912, or when the hon. gentleman became minister?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: The rates, as my hon. friend knows, have all been raised both in Canada and the United States owing to the increased cost of operation of railways. I have not the figures before me, but I am quite sure reductions will be made, although not to what the rates were before the war. But the point in this matter is the disadvantage which the Canadian manufacturer has against his American competitor owing to the higher rates in Canada. It is only the reduction that is in question here so far as it has a bearing upon what we have done in the way of reduction in the duty.

Mr. KAY: It was rather surprising to hear the appeal from the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. M. Clark) for help from the Opposition. His opinion of the Opposition, as expressed frequently during the session has not been very high. Although I cannot always agree with the hon. member, I had a great deal of pleasure in supporting him in his appeal for a lowering of the duty on ploughs.

There is no doubt that greater production and cheaper food is one of the essentials of this time. Now, the plough is the first essential in production, and should be made as cheap as possible to the farmer. A further strong reason why it should be made as cheap as possible is that at the