

specialized crop. In certain parts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and in Prince Edward Island the crop is a very important one. Potatoes are grown there for home consumption, for shipment to the other provinces, and for export to the West Indies, to Cuba and the United States. Under this agreement we admit potatoes free, and I think it is fair to assume there is danger of the Maritime Provinces being shut out altogether from the Ontario and Quebec markets. It would have been an excellent thing if the United States had reciprocated by admitting Canadian potatoes free, but the reduction is only from 75 cents, the previous rate, to 60 cents per hundred pounds on table potatoes. For three months of the year our seed potatoes are admissible at 40 cents, the rate for the rest of the year being 65 cents. Now, that is a trade agreement, but again I say it is not reciprocity. In the interests of the Maritime Provinces especially, these two items, lumber and potatoes, should be taken up and adjusted so that there may be some nearer approach to equality of rates between the two countries under this agreement which is called reciprocity.

I had intended to discuss the situation with respect to beef and pork, but I understand the honourable senator from Marquette (Hon. Mr. Mullins), who told us he was getting lonesome in this Chamber, will deal with these commodities in some detail. He knows much more about them than I do, and I believe he will quote facts and figures that will astonish us all. At any rate, they will be very interesting. But may I make a few remarks with respect to pork? We reduced our rate on United States pork from 5 cents to 1½ cents a pound, but the American duties against Canada are 2 cents a pound on swine, 2½ cents a pound on pickled pork, and 3½ cents a pound on bacon. Those rates indicate a considerable difference in favour of the United States and they are further examples of why this agreement cannot be called reciprocity.

Now I want to say something about hay, which is an important product in those vast reclaimed marsh lands at the head of the Bay of Fundy. One area in front of the town where I live produces nearly 10,000 tons of hay annually for export. Taking all the marsh lands at the head of the Bay of Fundy as a whole, it is no uncommon thing for them to produce 20,000 tons of hay a year for export to the United States and the West Indies, and for shipment to other provinces, in addition to what is produced for home consumption. Our duty on hay from the United States was formerly \$5 a

ton, but under this agreement it has been reduced to \$1.75. The United States duty on hay from Canada was formerly \$5 too, but this has been reduced only to \$3. Now, if there is a shortage of hay in Quebec or Nova Scotia—and it frequently is necessary for those provinces to require hay to be shipped in—

Hon. Mr. GORDON: And for Ontario too.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: Yes. If these provinces have a shortage of hay they can import it from the United States, and the duty is only \$1.75 a ton. It is not unusual for certain states of the Union to have to buy hay from outside, but if we send any to them we must pay a duty of \$3. This is another instance where there is no reciprocity. I can assure the House that the matter is of real importance to the Maritime Provinces, and especially to those counties at the head of the Bay of Fundy where the hay production is so large.

Every lumber man, every farmer, every hay dealer, every potato grower in the Maritime Provinces will be dissatisfied and greatly disappointed when he becomes cognizant of the facts about this agreement. He will feel that he is not getting what he had a reasonable expectation of getting. After all, the appeal that a tariff agreement makes to a man depends very largely upon how it affects his loyalty and his pocket, and any agreement that does injuriously affect either of these things will cause him to feel aggrieved. I have referred to these items with respect to which we have not reciprocity under this agreement: lumber—that is the most important—hay, beef, potatoes and fish. The agreement is unjust to us in that it does not give us the same rate of duty that it gives the United States. I ask the honourable leader of the Government to see that this and the other injustices to which I have called attention are rectified, for I understand that within the agreement itself provision is made to meet such cases. I consider they are well worth consideration, and therefore in the interests of the Maritime Provinces I submit them to the attention of the Government.

Hon. HENRY A. MULLINS: Honourable senators, there are a few observations in connection with this treaty which I desire to make, and I shall speak but a short time. I have always been taught to be brief in public speaking. I have stood at the bar of this Chamber many times in past years, but it has never been my privilege until to-day to address this august body. Naturally I do

Hon. Mr. BLACK.