

a high price, and the right to buy it is granted in every country in the world except Canada. On the other hand, the competition with New Zealand and Australian butter is a great menace to the dairy trade of this country, particularly because grass butter, which has always a better flavour, is brought into competition with our own winter products. It is packed and sold by experts in the business, and while in one year the consumption of oleo fell from fourteen million pounds to two and three quarter million pounds as butter became cheaper, the importation of Australian and New Zealand butter is vastly increasing in volume, and is proving a real menace at only one cent per pound protection.

The Minister of Agriculture, however, told us nothing about his famous rancid butter bill, which he introduced on May 7, 1923, and in which he proposed that butter in all stages of putridity should be allowed to be taken into establishments where it would be thoroughly laundered. The process which was proposed was to melt it by heating, skim off what filth they could, wash it several times with clean water, churn it with milk to give it the lactic acid flavour which all butter possesses, colour it to make it look like butter, granulate it by spraying it with cold water when hot, so that it would have the butter fracture; then cut it into blocks and sell it for butter.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: You should have had that typewritten. You could read it better than the handwriting of the hon. member for Victoria.

Mr. TOLMIE: You cannot show my handwriting on that.

Mr. PRICE: The peculiarity about this rancid butter was that the worse it smelled, the cheaper you could buy it. But in the process of putrefaction which it had gone through, the fat cells would be broken down and its keeping qualities impaired. Note what injury this would be to our export butter trade in the event of this butter being mixed with some other butter and sold for export. While the minister makes a great row and treats us to some of his farm yard buffoonery this afternoon, he says nothing about his famous stinking butter bill, which gave him a reputation much like the proposed process butter from one end of Canada to the other.

The hon. Minister of Railways, speaking in the House of Commons, on February 29th, referred to a committee of the United States senate and quoted from their report as to conditions existing in the Pennsylvania coal belt,

[Mr. Price.]

which he described as a "blot upon American civilization". The report states:

The committee found men, women and children living in hovels, which are more unsanitary than modern swine pens—they are breeding places for sickness and crime.

The minister went on to point out the industrial depression in the United States. I would warn the minister that his remarks concerning that country may not meet with the approval of his leader, whose friendliness to the country to the south of us is well-known. He may consider it dangerous to utter such statements as they may lead up to the severance of diplomatic relations. But of course we have our minister plenipotentiary at Washington, whose services could be requisitioned. I would suggest that the Minister of Railways keep tab on the situation, note whether the government of the United States can devise any means for overcoming those conditions, and report back to the house.

We all know what has occurred in Canada as a result of tinkering with the tariff in the last few years by the present government. The Minister of Railways has spoken of conditions in the United States. I wonder if he would care to hear something about the conditions in Canada, which apparently he has not heard of. I quote from the Canadian Congress Journal:

The city of Vancouver has warned workers against going there and has found it necessary to undertake numerous relief works. Winnipeg reports practically 80 per cent of building trade employees out of work, with many others who have crowded in from the western farms totally unprovided for. Toronto reports the greatest list of unemployed registered at the employment service offices for many years past and attributes this to workers being attracted to that city by false reports of a building boom. The Ottawa press comments upon the significance of nearly a thousand workers being on hand at a few hours notice seeking to earn a little money by a removal of snow after a recent severe storm and states that this shows conclusively the existence of severe unemployment in that city. Montreal federated charities report their services overtaxed and find themselves unable to cope with the destitution in that city caused by continuous unemployment. Again, thousands of miners in Nova Scotia are being forced to look to their unions and the public for relief and at the time of writing both the federal and provincial governments are being urged by the municipalities in that district to take immediate action to relieve the situation; and so on throughout the country.

But I presume, Mr. Speaker, you might as well appeal to a Japanese wayside idol as to this government.

The woollen industry has been very fully discussed by hon. members who are thoroughly familiar with it, and they have referred to the fact that many factories have had to