

manufacturers cannot be expected to compete on even terms with countries in which the condition of life among the labouring classes is altogether different. We do not desire to reduce our labouring population to the low standard of living, to that hard fierce struggle for existence which prevails in many countries. We do not want our labouring classes to compete without protection against the pauper labour of any country.

6. To utilize the labour of our own people in conversion of our own raw material into finished products required for use in our own country. It is surely bad policy to export our raw material, to send our labouring classes abroad to another country to find work in its manufactories and to send after both our money to pay for the finished product which we require.

Canada is bound to become a great agricultural country and her farmers are entitled to every possible protection and assistance. But we have enormous and varied resources, the reasonable development of which will build up, not only in the east but in the west as well, great industrial centres of population which will afford a home market better than any foreign market for very large portions of our agricultural products. We know now that one of the matters of regret among the Americans who are coming by thousands into our great North-west is that they do not have in the west of Canada the home market which they had in the United States by reason of the great industrial centres which have been built up in the Western States. I believe that by a policy of adequate protection, such as the Liberal-Conservative party has advocated, is advocating and will advocate in this country, we will build up, even in the west of Canada, great industries and great industrial centres. The value of our home market cannot be placed too high. We know the value which has been placed upon it in the United States of America. We know that the United States have always carefully guarded their home market and it is apparent from the utterances of her public men and leading business men that they propose to preserve it in the future. Those of them who have discussed measures of reciprocity with other countries have always declared

that any system of reciprocity upon which they would enter must be of such a character as not to harm a single American industry and not to deprive a single American labouring man of one day's work. One of the latest pronouncements on the subject is that of Mr. Shaw, secretary of state for the United States. In dealing with the policy of the United States in the future he made the following very frank declaration:

We say that it matters very much who produces that which the American people consume. American people shall have the first opportunity to supply the American market. Therefore adjust your tariff so as to give the American labourer, artisan and farmer the first opportunity to supply that which we can consistently. Then we have a surplus. What will we do with it? We will sell it abroad. Higher than we sell it at home? Yes, if we can. Cheaper than we sell it at home? If necessary. Sell it for what you can get and we will have a large balance of trade, which brought in will make us all comfortable.

The following extract from a letter recently written by a leading manufacturer in the United States to the public press of that country is interesting. I refer to a letter, written by Mr. G. H. Seabury, of New York, in January, 1903:

The commodities that are undersold in foreign markets include steel, iron, machinery, locomotives, agricultural implements, sewing machines, cotton goods, pharmaceutical preparations, patented wares, furniture and minor manufactures that are produced in every section of our country. If these surplus exports were not sold at small margins of profit we would be unable to secure and hold our foreign trade.

As I have said before in this House, Canada, since entering upon her period of commercial development, finds herself peculiarly situated. She lies 4,000 miles alongside the greatest manufacturing and agricultural country in the world. She has a sparse population spread over an enormous area. She lies alongside of a country which protects by an almost prohibitive tariff its own home market. Canada, with 5,500,000 people lies alongside of the United States with a population of 80,000,000 and a home market absolutely protected. What is the result? Look at the enormous manufactures of the United States; look at the enormous agricultural production of the United States. In