

that I had been rung up by a gentleman from somewhere in Scotland and asked certain questions, and that I had replied to him I did not think it was proper for me even to discuss a matter which related to the domestic affairs of Great Britain, and that I had nothing to say. I said nothing. I made that statement in the house last year, and I am surprised that my right hon. friend does not remember it.

Mr. BENNETT: I certainly accept the statement of the right hon. gentleman. But apparently Liberalism is as unreliable in England as it is here.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. BENNETT: It has been said that as a result of the agreements entered into in Ottawa in 1932 the rest of the world would retaliate against Canada and against the empire. There is of course nothing to warrant any such statement. During the entire period of time that the Liberals were in office after the war they were unable to conclude any agreement at all with Germany, and it was not until after the Ottawa pacts were signed that an agreement was made with Germany, which as I happen to know and as hon. members opposite know, could not be brought about by the late Hon. Mr. Robb or anyone else. So that as far as Germany at least is concerned, one of the large markets of the world, we did make an agreement with them. There was a contract or agreement with France, but under that agreement France three times within a few months, and during the regime of hon. gentlemen opposite, raised the tariff against Canadian wheat. After the Ottawa agreements we negotiated a new treaty with France. So you have at least those two great trading nations with which Canada made trade agreements after the Ottawa agreements. And the agreements that were in force with other countries have not been abrogated. The twenty odd most-favoured-nation clause agreements that were in force, and have been for years, these contracts, treaties and agreements still stand. No country has asked that they be abrogated, no complaint has been made that would indicate reprisals as possible or likely. And as I shall presently show, we have extended our trade with all these nations.

It is desirable to keep in mind the extent to which we as a country have become dependent upon a stable market. I wonder if any member of this house has taken the trouble to realize what it means to have unstable markets for the exports of Canada. Has this house forgotten the observations made by the right hon. gentleman at the close of the budget of 1929 with respect to

trade with the United States of America? Have we forgotten the Hawley-Smoot tariff of that day, and his speech on that? Have we forgotten how he said that it is not desirable that we should do anything to protect ourselves, lest we arouse their anger still more and become the victims of it?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I never made a statement of the kind.

Mr. BENNETT: I think the word was "provoke." I have it among my papers, but it would disturb the sequence of my observations to turn to it now; I will take it when I come to it. "Provocative" I think was the exact word. At any rate it indicated a measure of regret that this country could not protect itself lest it might offend someone.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: That is not a correct interpretation, nor fair comment on what appears in the text.

Mr. BENNETT: It was also said that even our British preference should not be increased at this time for the same reason. Now, sir, I ask for any evidence that the world has resented the Ottawa pacts.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. BENNETT: If there is any we have a right to ask for it. Mere statements do not add to our knowledge. Name the countries, give us some indication of them.

Mr. DUFF: There was not anything in them.

Mr. BENNETT: All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that perhaps the hon. member for Hants-Kings (Mr. Ilsley) may be able to give an answer to that with respect to apples.

Mr. DUFF: Three cents a barrel.

Mr. BENNETT: If the hon. gentleman desires to make a speech his opportunity will come later.

Mr. DUFF: But my right hon. friend asked me a question and I answered.

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. gentleman has a habit of thinking any question is addressed to him that is addressed to the other side. It is a mistake.

May I point out that there has been a steady increase in trade between the countries comprising the British empire; that we have had an assured and sheltered market for our products, that in certain markets where there was uncertainty before there is now certainty, and we know that for a period of three years, five years from 1932, we have that market with respect to those products. We know that if material comes from a foreign country