

nearly all working on full time, while formerly many were on short time. Fifty of the new factories started at such wages and no change was deemed necessary. In 277 factories the wages have been increased from 5 to 35 per cent. The rate of wages generally throughout the Dominion, we all know, has been considerably increased; that settles, I think, the question of wages.

Mr. PATERSON (South Brant). How do they compare with wages in the United States?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I know, Mr. Speaker, that we have been obliged to send to the United States to obtain men for our factories, and to pay more in some cases than they have to pay there.

Mr. PATERSON. Do you have a tax on the labor coming in?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. No; we have no tax on the labor coming in. We give them the encouragement that the hon. member complimented his leader upon giving some years ago when they increased the duty on cigars, when that hon. gentleman rose in his place and complimented the then Finance Minister with increasing the duty on cigars, he said it had brought thousands into the country and it was just the policy to pursue. That is the kind of protection we are extending, and we hope he will give us his support.

Mr. PATERSON. The quotation is not correct, that is all the trouble.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Then I stand corrected. I have read it somewhere, and I have not seen it contradicted.

Mr. PATERSON. It was a figure of speech.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The *Hansard* has just been put into my hand, and I have no doubt it passed through the hands of the hon. gentleman before it appeared in the *Hansard*.

Mr. PATERSON. This was a figure of speech, I said.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. But let us see, Mr. Speaker, who made this speech. I find that it was made by Mr. Paterson, and I am quite sure it was not my hon. friend behind me (Mr. Patterson, Essex). He says:

"The other year the Finance Minister, in revising the Tariff, gave some encouragement to our industry which it never had before. The result was that a thousand men who were engaged in that industry in Germany were literally transported by the change in the Tariff to Canada, and set to work here. The cost of the article was not increased one iota, and Canada got all the benefit. The middle men suffered a diminution of profits; but for them nobody seems to care much, the producer and consumer receiving all the sympathy."

Now, then, I tell my hon. friend—

Mr. PATERSON. I do not repudiate that yet. I said figuratively at that time that those men were not wrong.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I now come, Mr. Speaker, to another statement that has been made by hon. gentlemen opposite; but before I do so, in order to make my answer more complete than it would otherwise be, I desire to refer for a short time to the cost of the manufactures of the Dominion of Canada to the consumer compared with what they were in 1878. And I trust I may be able to use as strong language, or language very similar to that employed by my hon. friend from South Brant, that the result of the increase in the Tariff had not been to increase the cost of the article to the consumer. I take up, in the first place, cotton goods, because I know that in the Maritime Provinces as well as in the west, but especially the Maritime Provinces, great stress was laid on the increased cost of cotton goods as well as the increased cost of woollen goods, especially of the coarser classes. I stated last Session the prices of grey

Sir LEONARD TILLEY.

and white cottons and brown sheetings, but I have here a statement showing that brown sheeting and bleached shirtings manufactured in the Dominion were sold at from 5 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over the net cost price of the same articles in the United States, or 10 per cent. less than the price at which they would sell under the Tariff of 1877-78. That is to say, that with reference to this particular description of cotton goods manufactured in the Dominion of Canada, they are sold to-day at a lower price than they were sold under the old Tariff. I have here a statement from Mr. Parks, of the city of St. John, with reference to ball knitting cotton, manufactured and sold by him at $39\frac{6}{10}$ cents per pound, delivered in Montreal, Toronto, London or Hamilton, while the net price of the same article in the United States, is 40 cents per pound. I have in my possession the letters written to, and the answers written by, men engaged in this manufacture in Massachusetts, and they state their lowest net prices. Therefore, the consumer of this description of cotton goods has them $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less than they had them in 1878. With reference to cotton yarns, No. 7 to No. 10, in the United States, in 1878, they were $20\frac{7}{10}$ cents per pound, the raw cotton being 10 cents per pound. The same articles are manufactured by Parks, and they were sold, in 1882, for $22\frac{5}{10}$ cents, the raw cotton being 12 cents per pound. There was an increase of price in this case of $1\frac{8}{10}$ cents per pound on the manufactured article, against an increase of 2 cents per pound on the raw material. Carpet warps sold in the United States, in 1878, at $22\frac{5}{10}$ cents per pound, while the same article is sold by Parks, in 1882, at $24\frac{3}{10}$ cents per pound, the increase being $1\frac{8}{10}$ cents per pound, against an increase in the price of the raw material of 2 cents, showing that the price was not really in excess of what it cost in 1878. Beam warps, No. 10, were $28\frac{5}{10}$ cents per pound in the United States, while in New Brunswick, in 1882, they were $31\frac{2}{10}$, an increase of $2\frac{7}{10}$ cents against an increase of 2 cents per pound on the raw cotton. Beam warps, in January, 1882, in the United States were $30\frac{6}{10}$ cents per pound net, while the price in New Brunswick was $31\frac{2}{10}$ cents per pound net, or less than 2 per cent. above the United States prices. These figures show that, so far as this particular class of cotton goods is concerned, they are sold to the consumer at a less price than in 1878, and many of the articles are sold at the American prices, or a fraction under or a fraction over them. I may add that it was not to be expected that the prices would be as low for the first year or two as they will be when competition is established. Take, for example, the year before last, when we had but two sugar refineries—those in Montreal—and look at the result which has followed upon the establishment of three others in the Maritime Provinces. A year ago I had to admit, on the face of the paper submitted to me, that 25 cents per hundred more was paid for sugar than under the Tariff of 1878. This did not include the charges by the middle men. Now we can state emphatically that the price is less to the consumer than if it had been imported under the Tariff of 1878. And I firmly believe that the competition in cost on cotton manufactures in twelve months, when we shall have 400,000 spindles instead of 180,000 which we have now, will produce such a result that there will be little difference in the prices here of any description of such goods and the prices in the United States. What our manufacturers say is: "that we can manufacture as cheaply here as in the United States, but we want the market. We are preparing for the sharpest competition, and we do not fear our friends on the other side of the line if we have the home market, and the competition among ourselves will keep the prices down to the consumer." This is an important subject. The leader of the Opposition referred to it, and in order to make the people in the Maritime Provinces see the effect of