

out injuring the farmers. This is not only true of the constituency which I represent but it is applicable throughout the entire Dominion. If we are going to accomplish anything in the way of getting together and formulating a policy that will be acceptable to us all we simply have got to forget our occupations and resist any desire to legislate simply for industry or for agriculture—we have got to get together and agree upon some plan that will be acceptable to the great mass of the people. Unfortunately this has not been done; and when I listen to the speeches pro and con in this house it does seem to me there is a lot of talking going on that is increasing the breach between agriculture on the one hand and industry on the other, whereas our efforts should be devoted to bringing the two together. To my mind that is one of the important things we have got to do. We must get together on this question and formulate a policy that will be in the **interest in the whole Dominion**. So much for agriculture.

Up to the present time the budget that has been presented by the Acting Minister of Finance has been one with which I can agree perfectly; it is a budget from which I think great good is going to come. We find that agriculture is going to be relieved of certain expenses which it has had in the past. I do not want you to think that we do not have any difficulties so far as agriculture is concerned in the riding which I represent; we have difficulties just as other places have, not as to what we have to sell but as to what we have to buy. We find, when we come to the markets to buy the necessities of life—for example our boots and shoes, our wearing apparel, our implements and so on—that they cost us too much money, they are too dear; and when we compare the prices we have to pay to what we have to buy we are right up against a problem which is a very difficult problem to solve. I notice that the provincial government in the province of Ontario have a commission going round at the present time in an honest desire, as they say, to try and solve the rural problem. To my mind it is quite a simple thing to find the trouble; the difficulty will be to solve the problem. I believe that marketing and marketing costs are, possibly, at the root of our troubles in Ontario to-day and not so much the tariff. If the tariff were wiped off our implements completely and off the articles of consumption I do not believe that it would make very much difference to us. But we have got to get cheaper transportation, we have got to get cheaper articles of consumption

one way or another, so that the price of what we have to buy will more nearly correspond to the price of what we have to sell. As I said up to the present time the budget is perfectly satisfactory. But I happen to represent a great many industries in the south riding of Waterloo. I am very proud of these industries and in talking over the matter with those engaged in them I find that their objection is not so very much to the budget as brought down as it is to the possible trend in which it is going. When we have the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Stewart) coming forward with the statement that this was a step that sounded the death knell of protection; when we have the Minister of Agriculture coming forward with almost a similar declaration, we are sometimes led to hesitate and wonder where we are going, what direction we are taking. I am perfectly willing that the tariff should be as low as possible, I believe in a low tariff, but I want that tariff to be a fair one. I believe in a fair and square deal not only for agriculture but for industry; and when we find that our manufactures to-day are right up against it in the way of hard times it is only with a good deal of hesitation that I am willing to accept the budget as it is brought down. If it is the intention of the government to go ahead with this process of elimination, if it is their intention to go ahead and gradually reduce the tariff on various articles—perhaps it would be boots and shoes next session or textiles—if it is the intention of the government to go ahead and do that I want to tell them frankly that I cannot follow them.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: Is that not the policy of the government and the party with which my hon. friend is identified? Is that not the doctrine laid down in their platform?

Mr. ELLIOTT (Waterloo): Perhaps my hon. friend is right. I do not wish to argue that point at this time. In talking to manufacturers I found one or two things bothering them very greatly. In the riding I represent we have a great many textile industries; in fact I am told by the woollen textile men themselves that I have more textile industries in the south riding of Waterloo than there are in any other constituency of Canada. If that is true—and I believe it is—I think it is my duty at least to see that these industries get a fair and square deal.

Coming back to the troubles which our industries have had in the past, especially the textile industry, I had reason to believe, as