

The Address—Mr. Pickel

for butter, and we had to ship our milk and cream to the United States, and so we stopped making butter, and we have lost the art. We will have to begin over again. If dairying in this country is made to pay, you do not need to worry, Mr. Speaker, about our not producing enough. If it pays to produce it, we will produce it; if it does not pay, we cannot produce it.

We have also imported five million pounds of bacon. Imagine importing that amount of bacon into an agricultural country like Canada! I say it is a crime. Altogether we imported thirty million pounds of meat and meat products from the United States last year. That is a condition that should not be tolerated. We must do something to encourage agriculture in the east. I understand that a movement is on foot to get the western farmer to go into mixed farming. There is one reason why it might not be very successful in western Canada, and that is because most of the western farmers that I know left the east for the west so that they would not have to work. Farming in the east means fifteen or sixteen hours labour every day from the 1st of January to the 1st of January. Does the western farmer want that? Not a bit. For that fifteen or sixteen hours' labour the farmer gets nothing, worse than nothing. The farmer is not suffering from any unemployment, not a particle. He is in the position that he is unable to accomplish the work he should do, and he is unable to hire help.

I would like to say a word or two about the industrial expansion in my part of the country since the tariff was increased last September. Even amongst the dairy farmers there is a better feeling to-day than there was then, for they know that no more butter is coming in from New Zealand unless it pays a duty of eight cents a pound. They would also like to see that provision extended to Australia, and if that were done I think they would be satisfied. I think myself that the tariff should be ten or twelve cents a pound, and certainly it should be extended to Australia.

A factory in my town, which last September employed 180 hands, to-day employs 500. Silk is being produced at a price less than that prevailing before the protection was granted. Another factory in my town, one of the largest factories in Canada, which employed thirty hands last September now has seventy-five. The plush factory in Farnham which was closed last September is now open and employing fifty-two hands. I may add that it is increasing its operations every day. We have built a \$2,000,000 linoleum plant there too. I think hon. members from the eastern town-

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ships will agree with me that as a result of this improved industrial condition brought about by the tariff legislation last fall, there is a better feeling throughout the district than prevailed last year. This expansion of eastern industrial concerns is going to make a better home market for the farmer. The improved condition of affairs in my little section we want to see prevail all over the Dominion.

I contend, Mr. Speaker, that if you have a tariff you should make it high enough. What in the world is the object of having a low tariff when you are sure it will not protect the manufacturer. If a tariff of 30 per cent keeps out foreign competition, what does it matter whether you make it 50 per cent or higher so long as you accomplish the purpose in view—to preserve the home market for the Canadian manufacturer and so protect his workmen, and inasmuch as the government assures us the consumer will not be exploited.

In the speech from the throne mention is made of the proposed creation of a tariff commission. Well, I hope we shall have a workable tariff commission, not a tariff commission such as the late tariff advisory board, which operated simply to reduce the tariff as low as possible and still keep people travelling round on their feet. Certainly we do not want a tariff commission such as we had in conjunction with the defunct consumers' league, which operated simply for the good of a party and not for the good of the country.

Something has been said about a one-man government. Well, if he is the right man it is the best kind of government on earth. Of course, democratic government has come to stay, for the simple reason that usually any autocratic form of government is terminated by death, and however beneficial that government may have been, the resultant confusion following the removal of the autocrat more than offsets any benefits that may have accrued to the country. But I do not see where hon. gentlemen opposite get their premises for the assertion that this is a one-man government. It is simply a supposition put forward by someone—well, he has had a dream. I submit that with the gifted and resourceful leader that we have, supported by a solid party, we shall have good government and the national interests will be looked after in a way that they were not looked after while our friends opposite were in office.

Mr. G. G. COOTE (MacLeod): Mr. Speaker, unfortunately the rules of the house limit me to forty minutes, so I am not able to follow in detail the remarks of my hon. friend (Mr. Pickel) who has just spoken. Indeed I intend