

more closely together, each giving to the other a generous, helping hand and starting together on the same high road to prosperity that England and the United States followed. Those countries have left their landmarks and their guides for us. History has recorded their way to union, and national prosperity and greatness. That way was not freetrade, but protection. We cannot have freetrade, because we must raise by revenue about \$26,000,000 yearly, to meet and carry on the expenses of Government. It would seem that the Government must favor direct taxation, and it will come to that if this Government should unfortunately retain power, and pursue the same policy as in the past. I do not believe the Government have a right to say, as the Secretary of State to-day said, that they have nothing to do with the depression in trade, that they could not prevent it, and cannot relieve it but to trust to Providence entirely, and hope by abundant crops that this depression which now prevails throughout the Dominion is to be obviated. I do not believe in that policy; I believe the Government have something more to do than to fold their arms, tax the people and increase the debt of the country, and trust to Providence to help them. I believe that this Government can by a proper fiscal policy—such a policy as Sir Alexander Galt suggests—a retaliatory policy you may call it—alleviate the depression in almost every branch of trade in the country. Let us encourage our natural industries and keep out American stocks. If the Government would look nearer home for a market than New South Wales; if they would encourage our languishing trade with the West Indies and the Brazils, making a reliable market for the fish and other products of this country, so that our ships could bring back sugar to be refined in the Dominion; they could in this manner build up an interprovincial trade that would greatly assist the several interests of the country. Until we can have a Government who feel that office is only second to the well-being, prosperity and advancement of the country, we cannot hope for the future of our Dominion. Through the Government's destruction of our sugar refinery interests, Canada has lost largely the trade of the West Indies. In fact, we of the Maritime Provinces are

Hon. Mr. Kaulbach.

now obliged to make of the United States a market for produce that we should send to and receive from the West Indies and Brazil direct, and from these Upper Provinces. What we want is a direct weekly line of steamers, subsidized by Government, to carry our fresh and other fish, and other products, so that not only our merchants but others interested in our products can take advantage at all times of proper seasons, and not be constantly subjected to the fluctuations of the West Indian markets. The Hon. Secretary of State has told us of the condition of the boot and shoe trade, and that the purchasing power of the country has been exhausted, and that we must not pamper one trade to the injury of others. I will answer him briefly. Why is the purchasing power exhausted? Simply because we send the money away that ought to be kept in Canada, and spent here to build up and encourage the labour of the country: because other branches of industry have failed and there is not the power to purchase. Each branch of trade is dependent upon the other; all tend to the advancement and advantage of the country, and one cannot prosper at the expense of the other, but all must prosper or suffer together. I agree with my hon. friend that the purchasing power of the country has gone. Our money has gone to build up the United States, and I say, therefore, when he takes this particular branch of trade, the shoe business, in which a large amount of money has been invested, and says it is becoming a failure, it is because the fiscal and commercial interests of the country, our natural resources, productions and labor, have not received the attention they deserved at the hands of the Government. Our tariff should be revised; we should see what branches of trade require to be stimulated; what labor should be encouraged; what are the natural and productive resources of the country, and encourage them. The poor man should not be obliged to pay twice the percentage on his tea, that the rich man has to pay. It is the same in sugar, tobacco and beer, the poor—the mechanical, the industrial classes—pay a larger percentage (at least twice the amount, on the value of the articles which they consume) than the rich man pays on his; instead of discriminating, as the Government ought to discriminate, and relieve as