

Mr. E. D. Smith, the Conservative member for Wentworth, Ontario, speaking on this subject in the House of Commons, on the 9th June, 1904, made a careful selection of the agricultural imports into Canada from all countries, which he considered came into competition with what our farmers produce. That list, of course, contains things such as hay, hops, trees and plants, etc., which do not come under the general classification adopted in this case by the Conservatives. Mr. Smith made his comprehensive list amount to \$5,756,228.

Under the Conservative headings: Breadstuffs, Provisions, Vegetables and Animals, the only agricultural imports therefore concerning which there can be any question of competition with Canadian farmers, amount, as we have shown, to \$5,036,576.

The great bulk of these things have gone to the Yukon, British Columbia, the North-West Territories and Manitoba. The following table, besides showing their distribution as between Eastern and Western Canada, gives also our total exports of the same products:

	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.
	West.	East.	
Breadstuffs	\$ 272,288	\$ 809,046	\$40,857,204
Provisions and Vegetables	882,724	1,535,867	51,134,131
Animals.....	1,421,106	150,058	16,360,577
	\$2,576,118	\$2,494,971	\$108,345,912

It has not been seriously urged by the people in Western Canada that the agricultural imports there have had the slightest effect in displacing the Canadian product. These imports were either stockers imported at an average price in 1903 of \$12 50 per head, to serve as the raw material of our graziers, or they were imports into British Columbia, and the Yukon especially—places far removed from our centres of agricultural production and comparatively much nearer and of easier access to the United States centres of agricultural production. The Conservatives, by their short-sighted and selfish policy in defeating the Liberal Yukon Railway Scheme, destroyed Canada's chances of competing on at least equal terms with the Americans in the Yukon trade.

The imports to Eastern Canada compare as \$2,494,971 to exports \$108,345,912, a negligible quantity when we remember that these export figures represent about from one-fifth to one-quarter of our total production.

Speaking of our total agricultural trade with the United States, whether of raw material or other, we find that our agricultural imports from the United States show a sagging tendency, while our agricultural exports to them are tending upward, as the following illustrates: