and wise. I am getting letters every day from sources that I had not expected, from people who have placed their money in Beauharnois securities and who, by the termination of that contract for the sale of power, find themselves in a position where their savings are jeopardized and ruin confronts some of them both at home and abroad. It is pathetic that this should be so. I say "pathetic" because there is a pathos about a matter of this kind that far transcends any mere party discussion. I assure this house on behalf of those who sit here at any rate that we hold the strongest possible view as to the desirability of some modus vivendi being arrived at that will assure the removal of this—the Minister of Trade and Commerce speaks of sales resistance—shall I say investment resistance on the part of those in Great Britain who have money to invest against finding here a home for their investments, by reason of that action that was taken. And to a lesser degree that same feeling obtains in other places.

I have already dealt with the paragraph that refers to the restoration to parliament of its ancient powers and vigour. I shall leave that for the present, and as the measures develop that have to do with the restoration of responsible government and representative institutions to this dominion I shall endeavour to make myself audible in considering and criticizing those measures.

An effort is to be made to substitute stability for uncertainty in the administration of customs laws. I take it that has something to do with so-called dumping duties and exchange values. Well, Mr. Speaker, I had considerable to do with these matters during a period of five years. It was the considered judgment not only of our government but of other governments with whom we did business that we were compelled by the economic conditions under which we live to take action to secure for Canada some sort of protection against inevitable destruction by the dumping of goods upon our markets at any price. There was no method by which that could be accomplished by an ad valorem tariff that would change from day to day or by specific duties that might or might not apply because of changed price lists from countries dumping goods upon our markets. So we took a method that achieved its end, that accomplished its purpose, and that preserved the integrity of this country. When I look at the trade returns; when I see Canada's position at the end of 1935; when I see Liberal journals rejoicing in the prosperity Canada enjoys and the position we occupy, I should like to ask them what they were saying during the long five years that we were endeavouring to attain those ends. Little by little, slowly and gradually we improved our standing until we reached the position to which reference is made by financial journals in every part of the world. Read the reports of the great banking institutions of the United States and see what they say about Canada. Read our own journals. I ask this house, as I have frequently asked other people: how was this accomplished? It was accomplished by meeting every situation as it arose from day to day in the manner we did, preventing dumping of goods upon our markets, maintaining the integrity of our country and the safety of our credit. That is what we did. Let me say this: the main market phenomenon we have to deal with in this country arises from the fact that over half our population is found in the cities and towns. For the first time in Canada's history the last general census indicated such a shift of population. It is no longer predominantly a rural population, the majority has now become resident in cities and towns. Whether or not the policy that we adopted of developing the industrial structure was a right one, I am not here to say; but having once started to develop that structure, having once moved into cities and towns and urban communities over half our population, we could not, in time of great adversity, in days of great depression, unless we were prepared to go bankrupt, do other than we did.

We pointed out at the time that these were temporary measures, as they were. The tariff was a temporary measure. Would there ever have been any American trade agreement had it not been for the tariff we imposed in 1930? I have it, not from hearsay but from the Americans with whom we ourselves negotiated, that our tariff of 1930 was responsible for the fact that they were negotiating an agreement with us. That is a case in which tariffs fought for Canada, fought for every class in the country, for every part of the country. That is known, it is known to every one who wants to be fair in dealing with this matter. I say that, with this great shift of population, this great industrial structure that we have built up over these years, that successive governments have protected, we could not, we dare not in days of depression let it die. When we imposed dumping duties against Great Britain and fixed the value of the pound at $4.40 because we anticipated that the increased cost of production would bring about a ten per cent reduction in the value of the pound in a short time, we found to our surprise it was not ten but only eight per cent, and we had it from the high com-