

of that, in connection with this treaty. The Grain Exchange has met in Winnipeg and has passed a resolution to the effect that the Inspection Act must be changed. What must be done under this treaty? We must change the Inspection Act, and we must make the grades the same as the American grades; that is, we must permit of mixing; and to all intents and purposes, we must hand the control of our grain market over to Minneapolis. That is the position. To get a better price? No.

BEGINNING CATTLE TRADE.

Then there is the question of cattle and that is one question in respect of which there is no doubt that the farmer will get a benefit under this agreement, for the present at least. There is no doubt that the market for the second grade of cattle in the prairie provinces is a poor market at the present time—why? Because it is a new country. It is only a short time since the country was sufficiently settled to have a sufficient production to organize this business. In fact, we have hardly got to that point yet. The result is that there is at the present time a very poor market for cattle in the western provinces. But that is no reason for throwing the country away, or for considering that we can never have a market. That is a reason for taking up the subject and dealing with it in an intelligent way. The farmers' delegation, which came here recently, said to the Government:

"We wish also to draw attention to the danger we are in while we leave the opportunity open to the United States meat interest to capture and control the export trade from our country."

WE MUST ORGANIZE.

What are they going to do now? They will capture and control all the cattle of the North West—the very last hoof will be controlled from Chicago. What I say is, that we should establish a chilled meat industry. It has been done in Australia and New Zealand. Dr. Rutherford has reported in favour of it. There would be no great difficulty in the Government doing this, and it would be worth while taking the trouble when you have a country like the North West of Canada. We could afford to hire ten men at \$10,000 a month rather than lose this business. The members of this House know that I am an enthusiastic friend of the North West. The best years of my life were given to the settlement of that country, and I cannot tell you how I feel about that great country being made a back-yard to the city of Chicago. I have differed with my friends in my own constituency, and I do not know, but that there are many men who have supported me for years, who differ with me on this subject; but I take

the liberty of thinking that I know as much or more about it than they. I have studied these questions all my life, with the object of learning the way in which the affairs of that country should be organized so as to be of some benefit to themselves and the rest of the country, and I say that we should organize that country in a business way. If we do so, we shall have duplicates of the stock yards of Kansas City, Omaha and Chicago in our own North West.

SOME GENERAL EFFECTS.

What is the general effect of this treaty? The general effect is that we put the Dominion of Canada on an absolutely free trade basis, so far as farm products are concerned. The farmers of Canada are on a free trade basis for what they buy—protection for the purchaser, free trade for the seller. Do you think they are likely to stand that for any length of time? I do not. I tell you, that if you have had delegations from the North West, you will have them again if this treaty goes through. After it has been in force for a few years, I venture to say that there will not be any question of the duty on agricultural implements or on any other manufactured goods, for we shall be compelled to take all those duties off, and have practically commercial union with the United States. As men of common sense, let us apply to this question the same business rules that we apply to any other business matter. We open our market to the world. Read the list of favoured nations along with the United States. If there is in that list of countries anybody who can raise any one of the commodities in this list, cheaper than it is in Canada, unsaleable and unmarketable at home, it can be shipped and dumped into the Dominion of Canada. I cannot conceive of what our friends in the Government were thinking. I leave this question of markets and prices, and record my conviction, that if ever a Government made a monumental mistake, if ever a Government got in wrong on a subject from first to last, my hon. friends have got in wrong on this subject. The House may think that I am very much in earnest about it. Sir, I would not break away from the political party with which I have acted for 23 years, practically all my life, if I were not in earnest about it.

THE COMMONEST PHRASE.

What is the commonest phrase in the mouths of the people of Canada? We hear it in the speeches of public men, we read it in the editorials of newspapers; we even see it in the compositions of our school boys—what is it? "Binding the scattered provinces of Canada together." I would like to know if this treaty is intended to bind the scattered provinces of Canada together.