

The Address—Mr. Rowe

the long trips they have taken I have hoped nothing might happen to them. Especially do I hope that nothing will happen to the Prime Minister in his trip overseas, because if they lose him they have lost all. They expect to spend about \$5 million more in travelling this year. In fact, they are going to spend about \$60 million going here and there all over the world. You never know where a cabinet minister is going to turn up.

Mr. Harris: Surely the hon. member does not mean that we are going to spend \$60 million on travelling.

Mr. Rowe: On travelling and replacement of the representatives you now have, changing from one place to another, buying new residences for them, new furniture, carpets and so forth. You are going to spend about \$60 million on that type of salesmanship.

One of the troubles was that they entered the GATT conferences without any policy. They were poorly prepared. The only thing they had to say to the 31 leading trading nations of the world was that we are the freest traders in the world, that we have the lowest tariff. They boasted about that. From these final big league trade series, these famous commercial globe trotters returned with nothing but a diploma which represented the world's grand championship in free trade. While they did that and while they were achieving that, everybody else went to the conference with higher tariffs. Just imagine anybody who has played poker—and nobody on this side has had time to do so—entering the game with the cards stacked against him like that. We must be the most hopeful party that has ever been in the opposition when we ever had any hope that you would bring back from GATT much more than you have brought back. You are going back again.

While you were achieving this rather strange distinction, thousands and thousands of our people—almost half a million—have lost their jobs in Canada. Mr. Speaker, if I had the responsibility again of running a company, I would not hire any of these salesmen.

The present fiscal uncertainty and instability in this country is only in keeping with the historical record of the party that is now in power. I may be pardoned for looking back a little bit because, as I have mentioned, it is only by looking back beyond the days when we have had hot and cold wars and were preparing for others that we can find the period where we had to apply hard, cold logic to the development of this country. I have no apologies to make when I say that the party I represent today had as

much to do with the greatest era of development that we have had in this country and with the sound basis for development as had the party to your right, Mr. Speaker, despite their sincerity of purpose.

The Liberal party has had some great men in the past. In fact there were many who were greater than some of you are now. In 1891 your party fought more or less a rear-guard action for commercial union with the United States of America. But later, in 1907, that great statesman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier—and he must have been great because almost every Conservative I knew had great respect for him—had something to say. I remember reading something he said in 1907. He had far more interest evidently, as the record shows, in 1898 and other times in the United Kingdom market than this government has shown. He said in 1907, "There will be no more pilgrimages to Washington". He said that we would now look east and west and would develop in the United Kingdom the greatest market for our agricultural products that we have in the world. Therefore it is apparent that, although most policies of trading with the United Kingdom have come from this side of the house, not all were initiated by our party.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, recently we have observed another pilgrimage in great haste to Washington of these three wise men from the cabinet who returned last week empty-handed. They brought home nothing except the uncertainty they took away with them.

Mr. Cardiff: They had a good trip.

Mr. Rowe: That would not be much of a trip for these gentlemen. They have been spoiled. It might have been interesting for farmers like you and me. In 1911 that same party stood for reciprocity with the United States of America. They were going to go all the way, up or down, every way the United States went. There must have been a change even in the mind of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I think he would have been more stable if there had not been so many uncertain fellows around him.

I remember the history of 1921 and 1925, what was said about this great market in the United States, how the Fordney-McCumber tariff and the Hawley-Smoot tariff closed our markets overnight, and how these Liberals, who had looked so happy, looked sadder than they have in twenty years. They had boasted about how trade would be built up and their boasts were shattered like a deck of cards, and we had more unsold cattle than at any previous time before 1930.

Then we come to 1930. They changed their policy again. Some hon. members will