

Mr. EDWARDS: The hon. gentleman says that in nineteen years out of twenty the price is higher on the other side. That means that in nineteen out of twenty years they would not be sending them over here.

Mr. LOGGIE: When we have not our own potatoes, we would pay the higher American price.

Mr. EDWARDS: That would be in one year out of twenty.

Mr. LOGGIE: What I said was that there is a market price for potatoes at digging time and in the following three or five months. I say that in nineteen years out of twenty the market price in the United States is higher than in Canada, and therefore there is no danger of American potatoes interfering with our home market. We buy American potatoes when our own are not available; that is, between seasons when our own potatoes are not palatable to city customers, at any rate. American potatoes are perhaps largely imported into Canadian cities during the months of June, July and August. I appeal to the minister to consider my resolution not from any party standpoint but for the following reasons: It will synchronize with the Underwood tariff. I have already pointed out that the United States tariff was unfriendly for forty years, and that it is now friendly; it will enrich our potato growers and will do them no harm because importations are principally made at high cost, and when old potatoes are not palatable, and before Canadian new potatoes are on our market. It will not harm our farmers because in nineteen years out of twenty potatoes are dearer in the United States than in Canada. It is urgent in the future interests of our trade and commerce; it will pave the way for enlarged markets, and increased production of Canadian potatoes; it will bridge the chasm between theory and practice, as we will realize a levelling of prices on potatoes as between Canada and the United States, resulting in immense possibilities for our farmers; it will remove from the minister's speech a sting of unfriendliness that may be read into it—I have already referred to that paragraph. It was the policy of the Conservative party, until 1911, at any rate, to have exchange in natural products. I think the minister might strain a point and put this one item on the free list. To-day and not to-morrow, this session and not next session, is the important time to act. Our non-action may be interpreted as not appreciating the

[Mr. Loggie.]

United States market, and the offer may be removed. We had a similar offer on our statutes for years, but deaf ears caused it to be withdrawn. Why enrich the United States treasury by \$38.25 per carload on all potatoes from Canada to the United States when this money can be put into the pockets of our farmers? I have already mentioned that in three months the duty paid on the exportation of potatoes from New Brunswick alone amounted to \$27,008. With free entry for our potatoes into the United States our potato growers would prosper, I am sure, in an unprecedented manner. We sent our deputy minister to Washington to get the embargo removed—proof of the value, in the opinion of the Government of the day, of the United States market for our potatoes. Put potatoes on our free list, and, ipso facto, our potatoes will be free into the United States. I have very much pleasure in moving the following resolution, seconded by Mr. J. J. Hughes, of Kings, P.E.I.:

That resolution 3, schedule 'A,' be amended by adding after 79a, the following:

That tariff item No. 83 be amended by adding thereto the following words: Provided, however, that potatoes dry, desicated or otherwise prepared, being the growth and production of the United States, shall be admitted free of duty when, and as soon as, the United States removes the embargo regulations now existing against like articles, the growth and production of Canada.

Mr. WHITE: I have listened with much pleasure and interest to the remarks of my hon. friend, and I am sure he will acquit me of any discourtesy if at this late hour I do not reply at any length, as he has covered a good deal of ground. I notice that my hon. friend from South Renfrew looks tired and I certainly feel tired. I think we should promote the national interests if we all went home to bed rather than stay here to continue this discussion. The resolution of my hon. friend synchronizes with the embargo against our potatoes. I take the position that we must negative this resolution as being inconsistent with the fiscal policy which I have announced in the Budget. I hope my hon. friend will not think I am dealing in any way abruptly or cavalierly with his resolution, and will acquit me of any discourtesy if I do not deal with it at any greater length.

Progress reported.

On motion of Mr. White, the House adjourned at 12.35 a.m. Wednesday.