

but he has lately developed as a critic of scriptural quotations or learning of any kind that we may make pretence to on this side of the House. It will be remembered that recently he brought the hon. member for Brome (Mr. McMaster) to task for misquoting the Scriptures. But I am sure my hon. friend's knowledge of the Good Book is very extensive, and he will remember the very good advice given therein that there is a time to speak and a time to keep silent; that there is a time when there is profit in talking, and a time when there is no profit at all. He will also find recorded there that the noble King David on one occasion had a sick child. While the child was sick the King threw himself down on the ground and prayed and put himself in sack-cloth and ashes, but immediately the child died he got up and washed himself and took breakfast, because there was nothing further that he could do.

We have fought the Government for the benefit of the West while there was any good in fighting. We voted against this tariff and for the amendment that would better conditions in the West; we did the very best we could. Now it has reached the stage when I realize that it is no good to ask the minister to stultify himself and change the tariff. I do not think he will. We are like King David, we have washed ourselves and taken our breakfast. We did the best we could. We stood by the West while there was any possibility of accomplishing anything.

Mr. ELKIN: I would like to ask the hon. member for Brantford a question in connection with this 30 per cent rebate on raw materials which come in for the manufacturer. A large portion of the raw materials to be used in these ploughs and other agricultural implements would come from mills making these basic materials—malleable iron and things of that kind. The 30 per cent, therefore, becomes or is a duty; it is a duty by way of protection to the manufacturers of these basic materials. In quoting prices based on the Pittsburg or United States prices, to what extent do they take advantage of this 30 per cent protection?

Mr. COCKSHUTT: I am afraid I do not fully understand the argument of my hon. friend. We buy these raw materials in Canada. We buy almost entirely the rougher classes of steel in Nova Scotia where the leader of the Opposition (Mr. McKenzie) comes from, and we get a good deal of steel from the city of Hamilton.

[Mr. McKenzie.]

Therefore, there will be no 30 per cent rebate if we continue to buy from those sources, because you get the 30 per cent rebate only if you import the raw material, and that I would not purpose doing even now.

Mr. ELKIN: Perhaps I might make my point clearer if I quoted the figures, although they may not be exact. Supposing the price of pig iron at Pittsburg is \$24. I am not familiar as to what the duty on pig iron is, but let us say it is \$5.

An hon. MEMBER: \$2.80 a gross ton.

Mr. ELKIN: Under this tariff you get a drawback of 30 per cent on the \$2.80 if you import the raw material from Pittsburg. What proportion of the 30 per cent drawback on that \$2.80 does the Canadian manufacturer take in quoting a price based on the price of \$24 at Pittsburg?

Mr. COCKSHUTT: I am afraid that has not been in operation long enough for prices to be settled. If it has, I have not yet heard of any change in the price as a result of the proposals. Any one can see that, as only 50 to 100 pounds of iron would be used in the manufacture of an ordinary implement, with a price of \$24 a ton, the amount would be very small if you got a refund on only \$2.80 per ton, and under the operation of the tariff as I understand it, you would certainly not get the whole rebate. Prices have not yet been revised and I have not had any opportunity of finding out where we stand in the matter; but as far as I can see, I think the minister stated rightly when he said that under the old tariff the manufacturers were getting what was already an exceedingly small profit—and I say that advisedly and I know what I am talking about. That being the case, then under the new proposals profit is going to be smaller, and because a low tariff means larger imports, and larger imports in the country will, I think the minister will agree with me, result from this tariff, we are, with a reduced tariff, going to be placed in this position that we shall have a circumscribed market and reduced prices, and in face of that, we have demands from labour which are very insistent at the present time for advances in wages of 25 to 30 per cent and, in some cases, for shorter time as well. So, if you take all these things together, the lot of the ordinary manufacturer of implements who is doing his best to satisfy the wants of the country in every respect is not a rosy one at the present time.