

epidemic of talk on this 'ninety-million market.' But if our friends opposite desire discussion of that kind, we are prepared to meet them at any time, anywhere and under any circumstances; and the result will be the same as it was in 1911. I think they would be well advised to take up not more than a reasonable part of the time of this House in a discussion of this nature. For my part, I am quite prepared to support any legislation that will make for a better market for the farmers of Canada. But I want to be shown that it is going to be a better market. I am reminded of an incident that happened in the early settlement of the province of Ontario. Times were bad, and the people were hard pressed to make a living. One farmer who had got in early and had succeeded in getting a little property around him, had, among other things, a number of small pigs, which he kept in a pen not far from his shanty.

5 p.m. Two men who were hard pressed made up their minds that they would steal one of the pigs. Unfortunately for them, while they were deliberating and making their way to the place, a bear had got ahead of them and had devoured the pig. One of the men went in to secure the pig while the other remained outside to watch. After waiting for a time, the fellow outside said, 'Did you get him?' 'Yes,' answered the other, 'but he has got me and he is hugging me till he makes me squeal.' If our Canadian farmers did succeed in getting into the American market at the cost of throwing open the market of Canada, they would find that instead of getting the American market, the American farmer had got their market, and he would hug them till he made them squeal.

Mr. CARVELL: It is said that 'fools rush in where angels fear to tread,' and, with the full knowledge of the fearful responsibility that I am taking, and even in the face of the advice, almost threat, of my hon. friend from Muskoka (Mr. Wright), I must have a word or two to say, not on the reciprocity question, not on the tuberculin test on animals going into the United States, but on the question really at issue, the question whether something cannot be done to get access to the American market for the potatoes of the Maritime provinces—even if the people of Ontario do not want it. I congratulate the Minister of Finance (Mr. White) on

the able defence that has been given him, for apparently he has decided without any further discussion that he will not consent to this resolution. I congratulate him on the defence and the exposition of the possibility of raising and selling potatoes coming from a gentleman representing a constituency that is so rocky, so worthless, that they have to import potatoes 1,500 miles from New Brunswick in order to get a few to eat. That hon. gentleman (Mr. Wright) must know a lot about raising potatoes; his constituents must be vitally interested in whether the people of the Maritime provinces sell their potatoes in the United States or in any other part of the world. If the gentlemen who defend the attitude of the Minister of Finance are farmers, what kind of people must they represent? What kind of farmers must there be in the constituencies of gentlemen who get up and suggest that the farmers should keep rotten potatoes in their cellars until the middle of June or the last of July? Hon. gentlemen are disposed to treat with levity anything which they realize is against their particular interests, but there is no use in trying to brush aside lightly the great question of a market for potatoes so far as the Maritime provinces are concerned. It is of no use to say that the question was settled by the defeat of reciprocity. It was settled for three or four years, but if hon. gentlemen think this question is settled for all time to come, they still have three or four thinks coming to them. An economic question will never be settled until it is settled right, and so far as potatoes are concerned this question was not settled right in 1911. I do not know whether my hon. friend is a farmer or not; I think he does not represent a farming constituency.

Mr. WRIGHT: I am a farmer and I represent farmers. I produce a great deal more than the average farmer in the province of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. CARVELL: Then, my hon. friend does not produce potatoes. He says we do not want to trade with the United States and the United States do not want to trade with us. I do not deny that they have been unfriendly; we are not all saints in this world and they are not all saints in the United States. They have done many unfriendly things with regard to their tariff, and I dare say they will do more unfriendly things. We have done unfriendly things with regard to our tariff, and probably we will do more unfriendly things; but