

Mr. WILLIS KEITH BALDWIN (Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. C. C. Ballantyne) has said that the Government of the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier did nothing to reduce the tariff during the fifteen years that the Liberal Government was in power. But may I point out that the preferential tariff was brought in during that time, and that the letter postage rate was reduced from three to two cents. I am afraid it will be a long time before we get back to the two-cent letter postage rate, although I understand that the United States are going back to the old rate on the first of July.

The Minister of Marine expressed himself as being very glad that there were so many representatives of the West in this

10 p.m. House. Well, you cannot very well keep the representatives of the West from being here—unless you obliterate the constituencies from which they come. But had the policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier of 1911 been adopted, the great West would have sent many more members to Parliament than are here to-day, because the very day the elections took place hundreds of wealthy Americans had located tens of thousands of acres in the Canadian West and were ready to purchase the moment reciprocity was approved by the electors. Had that policy been accepted, Canada would be in a far better position than she is in to-day. The West would not be complaining about the Hutterites and Mennonites coming into their part of the country and about the return of Americans to the country whence they came. The member for Red Deer (Mr. Clark) said a short time ago that upon the millions of acres of land out there enough wheat could be raised to make our appalling debt a mere bagatelle. Well, it would take a large number of people to raise a sufficient amount of wheat to do that. If we had the people to raise that wheat, we should not have hesitated to agree to the renewal of the forty-four charters that were under discussion the other day in connection with the railway policy.

I am in full accord with the suggestion of the minister that a better feeling should prevail in this country among the different classes of the people. As he has been connected with a great number of industries, he is the man who should set the example. It would be a good thing if the high and the rich people in Canada would extend the hand of fellowship to the labouring men, and make themselves approachable; if they would interest themselves in the working-

man, as my hon. friend says they have in most of the factories that have been erected in Canada during the last few years. Let them cut off some of their private cars and limousines; let them extend the hand of fellowship to the workingman, as is done in United States. One of the best resolutions that I have seen go through this House was that which we passed the other day to do away with the burden of titles, and to let aristocracy out. The day that we lifted the burden of hereditary titles from this country, we started to act upon democratic principles. I have been in the United States on occasions, and I find that the greatest men there are approachable. You will be sitting in some public arena, hotel or park; you will approach some man and engage in conversation with him, and you will find that he is a Chief Justice of United States, the president of a great railway corporation, a senator or a congressman. You will find that you are not at all in any state of frenzy because you have approached such a man; he makes you feel that he is no greater than yourself. A short time ago members of the House were discussing the salaries of judges, which, they said, were such that the judges could do nothing else but sit upon the bench. In the United States I have known judges to do their own gardening, curry their own horses and milk their own cows—and no doubt they are better for it, mentally, physically, and spiritually. When we have a proper democratic spirit in this country there will be a better relationship between the rich and the poor. I know people who move around this country wearing the most expensive clothing and with rubies, pearls and diamonds bedecking their anatomies—and they are called millionaires. But there is a wrong impression going around the country with regard to these people, very many of whom could not pay their grocery bills. And, mind you, they are always throwing tips to waiters. I know other people who are called millionaires who could not raise \$50,000 if the rope was waiting for them—excuse me, we are going to discard the rope for the electric chair. Therefore, it is better for us to let ourselves be known as we are. To be sure, many people have got rich during the war, and I certainly hope they will be made to disburse their money lavishly. As I understand by the new Budget, they will be called upon to pay in such amounts that they will remember it.

[Mr. Ballantyne.]