

A few more figures, however, are of interest. I have in my hand the export figures again, and I find that our exports of meats have diminished from \$33,000,000 to \$23,000,000 in two years; that, for example, our exports of bacon have gone down from \$25,000,000 to \$18,000,000; that our exports of beef have gone down from \$323,000 to \$226,000. At the same time, our exports of the products of the mine, in the raw state and manufactured, have gone up from \$59,000,000 to \$123,000,000 in two years. These are the things that actually disclose the meaning of our trade returns, and I want to ask: Are those exports being reflected, as they ought to be reflected, in the betterment of the Canadian home? Are they especially being reflected in the betterment of those classes of our population who, for years, have been in our land engaged in the historic occupations of this country?

I promised to give the figures in regard to exportations of wood and wood products, unmanufactured. Two years ago the figures were \$74,136,000, and this year the figures are \$123,694,000. This outside of grain is the big item of the whole export schedule.

There are one or two other figures which I shall give, and then pass on to some observations upon them. I refer particularly to woollen importations: Woollen importations have gone up to \$39,389,000, an increase of some \$4,000,000 in the last year alone; that refers only to a portion of the importations. When we include woollen yarns the figures are much greater still.

Now I desire to make some observations on the legislative efforts of this administration to stem the tide that has been proceeding. This government, of course, came into power committed to a tariff policy which had been resisted by the previous administration, which, by all members of that administration and by the party which it represented in this Dominion, had been described as a policy bound to result in disaster to our country if implemented in actual legislation. By that tariff policy the present government bound themselves; they undertook not merely to revise the tariff downwards but to sweep away entirely all customs duties on large classes of importations—on importations of implements of production, of food products, of lumber, of cement and of fertilizers, in short, comprehending a whole long list of classes of articles. In addition to this the government pledged themselves to a substantial reduction on many other fundamental lines comprising on the whole the vast majority of all the importations of this Dominion. Immediately they got into power they proceeded to cast aside

that programme. Instead, they began to describe it by indefinite names; they called it something which was all right in 1919 but, as the hon. Minister of Marine (Mr. Cardin) says wholly inapplicable in the present day and generation; they described it, in the words of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), as a chart and compass to be looked at but not to be followed; they described it, in the words of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fielding), as something which he never believed in at all and did not believe in to-day, and never intended to put into effect. In that policy not one hon. gentleman on the government benches had any more belief than we have on this side of the House. But in order to entice to their side while in parliament, hon. members to my left, they proceeded to give little concessions here and there, hoping that the results might not be too baneful commercially and would be profitable politically. They went upon the principle that

Round white stones will serve, they say,
As well as eggs to make hens lay.

And so they touched the tariff on farm implements; they touched the tariff on textiles; they touched the tariff particularly on woollens; and they touched the tariff on British boots and shoes but not on the American product. Now let us examine the effect of the government's intrusions in tariff policy. I speak first of farm implements. I wonder what has been the progress of the disease since the government applied its cure. Farm implements were too high; that was the great complaint. Throughout western Canada they complained that the farmer was being mulcted by the big manufacturers; the then "autocratic" government had so legislated, they said, that he had to pay too much for his implements of production. Such was the disease. Let us examine its progress so far. There has been a reduction of 2½ per cent duty on farm implements. How much has there been in the price? Every hon. gentleman to my left and every hon. gentleman elsewhere in this House who has purchased farm implements during the latter part of last year found himself paying not less but more; something in the neighbourhood of 20 per cent to-day represents the increase in farm implements over what they cost when hon. gentlemen opposite came into power. I do not attribute the increased cost to the reduction of the tariff; I do not think the tariff had the slightest effect at all on the price; nor do I believe that whatever they do now it will have any real effect, taking one year with another. It will merely remove the