

binder twine manufacturers although there are ten or twelve establishments scattered all over the Dominion. There is even one as far west as Brandon, Man. The statistics of this industry will show at once its importance. Last year the total amount sold in Canada was 10,078 tons and the amount imported 6,647 tons, or 66 per cent of the total sold. You thus have an industry almost universal in the provinces of Canada asking for help, and this government does not pay the slightest attention to it. The same may be said with regard to cement and woollens, and I am here to utter a solemn protest against the inaction of the Minister of Finance in refusing to give that helping hand to the industries of the country which he so well knows they need. Let me point to these great industries at the Soo. Though the government saw the works shut down, though they knew that seven dollars per ton was demanded on the rails, they gave a deaf ear to the representations made them. What did the province of Ontario have to do? The province spent about \$2,000,000 of public money in order to save these industries at the Soo, which this Finance Minister and his associates refused to aid.

What kind of a policy is that? Over \$30,000,000 of capital invested in the Soo. The government knew what was urgently necessary, what they have been time and again told was necessary. Yet they refused to act. And it was only when the man was drowned and another man put in his place that they extended this promised help of \$7 per ton on steel rails. I see that the Minister of Customs (Mr. Paterson) smiles at that. But, so far as I am informed, this is what occurred. These Soo industries went to the wall; the shareholders lost almost the whole of their investment—\$30,000,000 of capital wiped out. The industries were re-organized, the Ontario government doing a thing that never should have been done, something that never was done in the history of this country before, lending \$2,000,000 to resuscitate these works. And the industries could have been saved and this loss of capital avoided if the government had done its duty.

And now they come down with their boasted surplus—they claim \$15,000,000. But I charge against the government a loss of \$30,000,000 at the Soo; I charge against them the loss of all the capital in all the industries that have gone down, that are going down and that will go down because of the refusal of this government to do its duty and give the protection that is needed. And I lay at their door the suffering of the workman, the artisan and the mechanic, who has been driven out of his home, driven away from his native town, because this government closed its ears and refused to do what it knew to be a solemn duty—to extend a helping hand, as they might have done without injury to any interest in this

country. There is no other way this country can live in competition with the great manufacturing countries in the world than by an adequate tariff; and the sooner this government, and men of all classes on both sides of this House, recognize that fact the better. There is no doubt about it, this country, if it is ever going to be great, must be great industrially as well as commercially and as an agricultural community. We must have this variety of industry.

And now, having dwelt upon the industries that I promised to speak of in the first place, I do not want to disappoint the hon. member for Centre York (Mr. Campbell), and refuse to discuss some little duty on market garden stuff. I believe the hon. gentleman has a record as a protectionist on this subject. I think I have read speeches of his asking that this government give a little attention to a proposition that he knows, and I know, is a most important one for this industry. I happen to represent an agricultural as well as industrial district. It is all covered by the lovely name of Brantford; but that is apt to be misleading. Brantford covers more territory than old London, if you count the district that is attached to it for Dominion election purposes. That is one of the beauties of the redistribution of last session. And so beautiful was that redistribution that the Canadian almanac this year cannot give the population of either the riding of Brantford or the riding of North Brantford. It is impossible to give them without doing somebody wrong, and so they leave them out. But this is only by the way. In the district of Brantford I represent an agricultural community that raises a large quantity of vegetables, just as the member for Centre York does. In the district of Scotland they grow, perhaps, as large a quantity of onions as are grown in any other county in Canada. Those people are suffering from a grievance, and they know it. They know that they need a protective duty. But they cannot get it. Last year, in order to squeeze these farmers who produce these onions and compel them to take half of what their product is worth, parties brought in American onions actually to the village of Scotland, where not one was wanted, but where thousands of bags were ready to be put on the market. And from Scotland as a centre, they distributed these imported onions in order that they might break the price to the farmer. Which they did. And so they bought for 55 cents, 60 cents, 75 cents, onions worth from \$1 to \$1.25 per bag. That was done. And how? Because the government does not give protection to the market gardener that he is so thoroughly entitled to. And the same applies to corn and many other articles that our farmer grows. It is a mistake to say that the tariff is only for the manufacturer, the artisan and the mechanic.