

patients tongue. The physician placed the thermometer under the Irishman's tongue and walked up and down, while he waited for the expiry of the three minutes, during which the instrument was to remain in the patient's mouth. The poor Irishman held his mouth shut, and when at last, the doctor removed the thermometer, the patient said: 'Thank you, sorr; I feel a great deal better for that threatment.' The Finance Minister had taken the temperature of his following, and they felt they would soon be well. But I am afraid the improvement was like that of the Irishman, more in imagination, than in reality. Now, what did we do when we found we could not get any treaty with the United States? The matter was taken up seriously by the Conservative party in 1876, 1877 and 1878, when Sir John Macdonald, finding every effort to negotiate a treaty unavailing, laid down a policy designed to protect the home market of Canada and prevent the United States exploiters from dumping their surplus goods in our country. Being shut out of the American markets by high tariffs and the refusal to negotiate a reciprocity treaty from 1866 to 1890, we had periods of hard times in Canada, there is no doubt, and felt the urgent need of better markets for our own people. But, as the United States did not admit us to their markets, the wise statesmen of that day said: We will prepare for ourselves a National Policy, and will develop Canada on lines that will assure to our own people the employment that is denied to them by the Americans making a slaughter market of Canada. This National Policy was introduced in 1879, and had the effect of directing the pursuits of the people of Canada, and educating them so that they might better employ their time and labour by turning out the finished products suitable for Canada, instead of selling our raw products, as we had been doing up to that time. That policy continued to be carried out by the statesmen controlling the destinies of Canada. We sent experts to Great Britain to study the markets and ascertain what was suitable for the consumption of the people there, and how we could produce it and lay it down in their markets in prime condition, and in the most attractive and saleable form. We established experimental farms for the same purpose; we appointed a dairy commissioner, and dairy instructors; we prepared cold storage by land and by ocean, and improved the transportation of the country by land and by ocean as well. We did this for the purpose of transporting to the markets in which we must sell the goods we had to dispose of the only one of value we had left to the Canadian people, so that they might receive the benefit they

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were entitled to expect from the markets of the mother country. We sent Prof. James W. Robertson to England to study the markets of that country and of other European countries as well; and on his return to Canada, he outlined the policy which, in his judgment, we should follow, to make our products sell in those markets. He said that the education of our farmers was one of the desirable things, so that we might produce an article of superior quality in dairy products, cured meats and other foodstuffs, suitable for the British market. For that purpose we established experimental farms, we commenced experimental work by means of the experimental farms, and by the officers appointed to deal with the dairy associations to carry on the other portions of this business. And so we went on up to 1890. But we found that the Americans were still taking advantage of our markets. The meat products which our Canadian farmers were supplying in unlimited quantities, were driven out of the Canadian markets by the inroads of the United States meats. We had got the government in 1879 to put a duty on meats, but it was not sufficient. Deputation after deputation came to the government, until, in 1890, we laid this problem before them. We said that the Canadian farmers were raising meat enough to supply the demand of Canada, but the big Chicago houses brought into Canada 22,000,000 pounds of fresh meat to feed the Canadian people, depriving the Canadian farmer of his home market. And we urged that, in the interest of the farmer, the duty must be increased. We succeeded in convincing the government that this was the right thing to do. We showed them that every day the refrigerator cars could be seen coming from Armour & Co., from Swift, and other meat packers, of Chicago, dumping out the fresh meat in London, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, Montreal and even down to the maritime provinces. And there were stalls retailing this meat alongside the Canadian butcher stalls. These Chicago houses, in fact were feeding the Canadian artisans and labourers in the cities with beef and pork raised in Kansas and Illinois to the detriment of our farmers. Was that wise? Was it proper? We got the government to put the duty, not as high as we asked, but up to 2 cents and 3 cents a pound on fresh meat.

What was the result? In two years we shut up every one of these American butcher stalls in Canada, we stopped these refrigerator cars from dumping the fresh meat in Canada and reduced the consumption of American fresh meat to less than 8,000,000 pounds. Will any man tell me that that did not do the Canadian farmer