

in some respects, getting better. But what has the government got to do with it? The improvement in question has taken place not because of anything that the government has done but in spite of the government. British Columbia has resources and those resources are being developed; that is all there is to it. Those resources are bound to be developed and that development can only be retarded by a government to a certain extent. Now, the minister says, "We are responsible for those conditions."—At least I suppose he would say that. The Minister of Labour tried to contend that the government was responsible for the rosy conditions which he outlined, and I suppose the Minister of Public Works would do the same thing. I should like, however, to discuss for a moment the conditions in the timber industry. What has the government to do with the prosperity in that industry? Nothing whatever. Prosperity in the timber industry is due entirely to the export trade and not to the domestic trade at all. The government is certainly not entitled to any credit for the export trade; absolutely none. It may be responsible for an improvement in the domestic trade, but at present there is no domestic trade of any consequence. The government might claim credit for many things but I do not suppose it will claim credit for the construction of the Panama canal. Neither do I suppose the government will claim credit for the big stand of timber that we have in British Columbia, nor would it admit responsibility for the Japanese earthquake. All these things are elements, together with other things, which have created a demand for our lumber. It is our export trade, which consists largely of lumber, which has brought about the improvement in question and the government is not entitled to any credit for it. Is the government entitled to any credit in connection with the fisheries? I suppose the Minister of Public Works would say that the government should take credit for the unusually large run of salmon that we had in the northern Pacific waters last year. That is what has swollen the figures in the fisheries column, that is why the growth in connection with the fisheries was so marked last year; but the government had nothing whatever to do with it. Then we have our mines in British Columbia. What has the government done for the mines? The fact is that the mines are being developed. Mining is reviving again not only in Canada but in other countries, but our mines are being developed without any assistance from the government. In other countries they are do-

ing things to assist in mining development. For example in South Africa the government is granting aid for the prospecting of minerals, it is subsidizing prospectors; but the Canadian government is not doing anything. The government is not assisting the mining industry; it is not even building a smelter on the Pacific coast which is so badly required; in fact the government is not doing anything at all to assist the mining industry. I say that any prosperity that may have come to the mining industry is not due to anything this government has done. In other lines the conditions in British Columbia are bad. In that connection, before I go any further, I would say there is one thing the government might have done to assist our industries in British Columbia, and that is remove the discrimination which exists in regard to our freight rates. What has the government done in connection with that issue? Nothing but side-track it, and as far as I can see it is not going to do anything else. There are thousands of our farmers engaged in the poultry industry. What is the government doing for them? Doing nothing. People are complaining about it. I have letters and telegrams from various organizations out west. Meetings are being held. Just recently a meeting was held at which representatives of some 15,000 poultry producers were present. What were they meeting for? Because the poultry industry is being ruined and is threatened with disaster because of the tariff which is maintained by this government, and because of the inaction of this government in the matter of remedying these conditions. What are the conditions and what are the facts? We find that the duty on eggs going into the United States is eight cents; on eggs coming into Canada the duty is three cents. Is there any fairness or equity in that? How can we expect our poultry raisers in this country to compete with the producers on the other side of the line, when the Americans can come into our markets with their surplus, paying three cents per dozen, and when we want to go into their market with our surplus we must pay eight cents? I say the tariff should be equalized and there is no reason in the world why it should not be done. The government is allowing American eggs and Chinese eggs to flood our markets.

Speaking of the tariff this same inequality exists in other lines. We have an unequal tariff on wheat, hay, fruit, potatoes, butter, cheese, eggs, cattle, woollens, silk fabrics, silks and many other things. The tariff is very much in favour of the United States in all cases, the United States duty being much