

of this Canadian Government is being sold at a loss of from 5 to 7 cents per pound, it surely reflects badly upon the business standing of the Government in foreign lands; and I believe that nothing has been done that will so much depreciate the value of this most important Canadian product, as the course adopted in this case by the Government. It would seem that the Government has been in truth doing those things that it ought not to have done and leaving undone those things that it ought to have done. In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I believe that there never was a time when the public mind was in a more receptive mood. I believe that the people are studying the financial affairs and the fiscal policy of the Government as they never did before, and that when they have the opportunity of pronouncing judgment they will declare that there has been a great discrepancy between promise and performance on the part of hon. gentlemen opposite. Sir, I beg to thank hon. members for the kind attention with which they have listened to me in this debate.

Mr. RYCKMAN. Mr. Speaker. I have the honour to be one of the representatives of the city of Hamilton, the birthplace, I may say, of the National Policy, and the chief manufacturing centre in this Dominion. I have listened to hon. gentlemen opposite during this discussion condemn the National Policy and condemn the manufacturers of this country, and I feel that I cannot let this opportunity pass without taking some part in the discussion, for I have seen the benefits which have followed the building up of manufactures in our own city, benefits accruing not only to our own citizens but to the farmers for twenty miles around the city. Every member in this House and thousands of people out of it will remember the bad times during the Mackenzie regime. All are aware that the workshops during that time were deserted and that hundreds and thousands of workingmen were walking the streets of our cities unable to find employment. But what took place when the protective policy was brought in by the Conservative party? The workshops were opened, capital came in and labour was employed. I can give you instances in my own city of Hamilton. Near the Grand Trunk station we have a large rolling-mill, whose great chimney stood smokeless and idle during the years of the Mackenzie administration. But after the protective policy came into force, capitalists came in and operated these mills, engaged hundreds of willing workmen, and have since paid out hundreds of thousands of dollars in wages. Then there were the works known as Beckett's foundry, a large brick building. The friends of hon. gentlemen opposite used that building for political meetings in 1878, as the works were not running. But after the protective policy was inaugurated all was

changed, the cotton factory was started, the shuttles commenced to fly, hundreds and hundreds of hands were employed—men and women, girls and boys—and since then wages to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars have been earned and paid there. Of course, hon. gentlemen opposite say that times are not as good as they were. We admit that. There has been great depression all over the world, affecting even the greatest nations on earth. In Great Britain they have done everything they could to relieve the distress of their people, but they have not succeeded as they expected. Take again the United States, with the highest protective tariff in the world—they have had their troubles there also; their people have been out of work, their trusts have been forced to the wall, national banks have broken down by the hundred. But in this young country only one bank went to the wall. We have stood the pressure and have carried on our business still. We have suffered from the shock, but to a less degree than other countries, and I believe that the policy of moderate protection will soon again bring us into a condition of prosperity. Hon. gentlemen say that shops and factories are not increasing. In the city of Hamilton, we have a large malleable iron works which has just finished an extensive addition intended for the manufacture of scales and other products of iron. We have under construction a smelting works in which will be invested probably \$400,000. This industry will give employment not only to men in Hamilton, but also to men engaged in the mines, to men manufacturing dynamite, to men making tools, to railway men who transfer the goods—it is almost impossible to predict the benefits that will flow from the establishment of this industry to the working-people of the country. We find also, that as a result the natural resources of the country in the way of iron mines will be developed to a great extent. Only last week I was informed of a new industry to be started in the city of Guelph, in the form of a rolling-mill which will manufacture a line of goods not now produced in this country. This is a high grade of iron, known as Norway iron. One of the directors of the company told me that he had had a conversation with a member of the firm of Goldie & McCulloch who said they had to import this iron hitherto and was glad that hereafter they would be able to purchase it at home. These are but indications of what is being done, and I believe that new factories are being developed to a greater extent than many people have any idea of. Now, Sir, the manufacturers of this country, of course, anticipated the depression in other countries and they, as far as possible unloaded their goods, and have no accumulated stocks on hand. I feel satisfied for some years to come these manufactories will go on manufacturing the supplies this country requires and that