

how we will increase the revenue, and divert the taxation of the people into the treasury. Are they doing so? They are increasing the revenue certainly, but they are maintaining a protective tariff as high as that of the late Conservative government, there has been no reduction in any shape or form whatever. I will just give you the figures to show you to what extent they have made that reduction. I have before me the Trade and Commerce Report which any hon. gentleman can see, for the six months ending the 31st December last. This is the result:

*For the six months ending 31st December, 1897.*

Dutiable imports .....	\$34,350,025
Duty collected.....	10,146,267
Tariff taxation, 29½ per cent.	

*For the six months ending 31st December, 1898.*

Dutiable imports .....	\$43,524,049
Duty collected.....	12,520,677
Tariff taxation, 28½ per cent.	

*For the six months ending 31st December, 1897.*

Dutiable and free imports added.....	\$59,968,812
Duty collected.....	10,146,267
Tariff taxation, 17 per cent.	

*For the six months ending 31st December, 1898.*

Dutiable and free imports added.....	\$75,104,715
Duty collected.....	12,520,677
Tariff taxation, 16½ per cent.	

*Conservative tariff for the 12 months ending 30th June, 1897.*

Dutiable imports only.....	\$66,242,150
Duty .....	19,874,890
Tariff taxation, 30 per cent.	

*For the six months ending 30th June, 1897.*

Dutiable and free .....	\$106,715,205
Duty .....	19,874,890
Tariff taxation, 18½ per cent.	

Now, that twenty-nine and a half per cent tariff taxation is computed by the amount of money collected on the imports that came into the country with the 12½ per cent off during last year. Take the 31st of December, 1898, with the 25 per cent preferential tariff off and you have 28½ per cent. Now, there is 28½ per cent of tariff taxation collected off the necessities of the people during the six months ending December 31st last, with 25 per cent off in favour of Great Britain. These are the figures that have been put into our hands by the officials of the government themselves. There is no fake about it at all. These are the actual figures, which any one can find for himself. What was the percentage under the late government? For the whole year ending June 30, 1898—that is the last return we

have—we have not the Trade and Navigation Returns yet, but we have the Trade and Commerce Reports which show the exports and imports and duty collected. What was done under the Conservative government, which was denounced for twenty years, in which it was called all names under the sun. Sir Richard Cartwright used to say it was like a man trying to lift himself by his boot straps and everything like that. The dutiable imports were \$66,000,000 for the whole year. Duty collected \$19,874,000, and the tariff taxation was 30 per cent; so that we have under the late Conservative government a taxation of 30 per cent on the necessaries of life, and under the free trade Liberal government we have a tariff taxation of 28½ per cent. There is a reduction of 1½ per cent only of the taxation upon the necessaries of the people and it must not be forgotten, to use the Liberal party's own arguments, and to use arguments of the members of the government now on the treasury benches, that in addition to that 30 per cent that goes into the treasury of the country there is another 30 per cent that goes into the pockets of private individuals. So that while the people are being taxed sixty per cent upon the necessaries of life, or in other words being taxed thirty per cent on all, whether it is imported or manufactured in the country, according to the Liberal party's own theory or argument—an argument I thoroughly agree with, an argument that can be proved beyond a question, and has been proved by them over and over again—that the policy of protection has the effect that thirty per cent goes into the revenue, and another thirty per cent of the value of the people's industry into the pockets of private individuals. What have they done to reform that condition of things? They have been in power three years and have held four sessions of Parliament, and there is not one word put into His Excellency's speech as to any indication of what the government are prepared to do, but on the other hand, we have the most distinct evidence so far as public utterances of the ministers of the Crown are concerned, as to what they are satisfied with. We have the utterances of the hon. the Minister of the Interior in two or three different speeches, and naturally we watch his utterances out west probably more than we watch the utterances of the other ministers, because he