

grown in abundance by our farmers, commodities for which they can scarcely find a market.

I am an advocate of free trade.

Mr. MacNICOL: I am surprised to hear that.

Mr. REID: But when I see the hold the industrialists have in Canada, and when I see the protection given to them, I believe that in fairness to the farmer the same kind of protection should be given to him. It should be either free trade for all or protection for all.

Mr. BROOKS: You voted for the United States agreement?

Mr. REID: Then, we send half a million Canadian dollars across the line to buy strawberries grown in the United States, and yet no better strawberries are grown anywhere on the north American continent than are grown in British Columbia.

Mr. SENN: Except in Ontario.

Mr. REID: In 1938, according to the Canada Year Book, we had an adverse balance of well over \$13,000,000 in connection with agricultural products. I am reminding the Minister of Finance and the government that if from now on the policy is going to be one of preserving Canadian dollars, then I say, let us go the whole way and give the farmers the protection they need—protection which the industrialists already have. I say that because the farmers are, and for many years have been, placed in an invidious position, because they have to sell on a low priced market and buy in a highly protected market.

Mr. WARD: How can we protect the wheat grower?

Mr. REID: I will deal with that later. When I read in *Hansard* statistics prepared by economists with regard to price levels, incomes and salaries, and when I hear speeches made and statistics quoted by hon. members in an endeavour to make it appear that the farmers and those on relief are not doing too badly, I am reminded of an historic statement in the British House of Commons by Mr. Baldwin when he said to Mr. Snowden, "First there are lies; second, there are damned lies, and third, there are statistics." My statement may sound harsh, but I will say that one can take statistics and prove practically anything from them. But we cannot improve the lot of the workers or the farmers by any such citation of figures.

I was interested, and I have no doubt most hon. members were interested in the radio address delivered a short time ago by Mr.

Bruce Hutchison, correspondent of the Vancouver *Sun*. In that radio address he pointed out the great change in respect of trade which has come over the north American continent, and made special reference to the new economic scheme suggested by President Roosevelt. To my mind Canada must find new markets, if she is to survive the blow of the loss of her European market. The markets in Europe are lost now, and perhaps will be lost for some time to come, if not for ever. I suggest to hon. members that conditions are changing so fast that we might well forget all past arguments in respect of tariffs. I am doubtful if we can do all that will be necessary to be done, and at the same time allow business to go on in its own usual way. All notions of money and of spending are going fast, if indeed they are not already gone. At this session we have budgeted for well over a billion dollars, and it was only a short time ago that in the short space of an hour and a half the United States government passed votes aggregating four billions of dollars.

Hon. members may be interested in some particulars respecting our trade. I shall not deal extensively with this point; but when one realizes that two countries, the United States and Great Britain, took over 78 per cent of all Canadian exports, that those same two countries furnished 79 per cent of all Canadian imports, and that our exports to the continent of Europe, exclusive of Russia, comprising 190,000,000 people, was just over \$32,000,000, and our imports from the same sources were about \$24,500,000, we are forced to wonder if we are treating Great Britain fairly. We have not in the past, but I trust that during the war we will improve that situation, so far as trade is concerned. While we sold goods to the value of \$423,191,091 to the United States, our imports from that country were valued at \$487,279,507. On the other hand, while we sold to Great Britain goods to the value of \$409,411,682, our imports were valued at only \$145,050,000.

I am sometimes surprised at the attitude of many of our industrialists. Even during the present war some of them have been complaining privately to me that Great Britain has been making engines which could very well be made in Canada. When I am approached like this, I ask them this question: If we sell Great Britain our wheat and many other products, how is she going to pay us for those goods if we do not buy from her? I have mentioned these facts particularly so that I might bring to the attention of hon. members the fact that Europe has been cut off, so far as the factor of markets is concerned, and that with the loss of those markets