

to year a percentage of what the total trade is per head, what the total exports are per head and what the total imports are per head, and I find in the percentage of total trade per head that during the first period of comparison there was an average of \$46.44 per head—that is to say, that the people of Canada, after having supplied themselves, did business with the outside world to the extent of \$46.44 per head; and during the second period the percentage per head shows that after supplying themselves with all the necessities of life they were capable of producing in their own country, they only did a trade to the extent of \$43.68 per head. Now, this shows that the people of Canada were not able to do as much trade per head in the second decade as they were in the first. When I defended the National Policy I always felt that the population of the country was increasing very largely, and the manufactories that were being established were busily engaged in manufacturing for and supplying a vastly increased population, and that that was a fair reason that we were retaining that capital in the country; but when I find that our population has not even increased, or barely increased, more than the natural increase, then that contention falls to the ground at once.

Hon. Mr. POWER—I would like to know whether, in making up the statement with respect to the aggregate trade of the country during the years to which the hon. gentleman referred, he took into consideration the fact that during the first period British Columbia, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba were not all the time members of the Confederation?

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—No; I did not. I have merely taken the returns out of the book, showing no reference to that at all, but that is a point which adds additional significance to the figures I am bringing before this honourable House. What I wish to show is that, whereas in the first period our aggregate trade was \$46, and in the second period \$43 per head, that the statistician mentions that in making up those statistics he based the population upon an increase which was not real. He expected and believed, according to the best evidence of growth, that the population of the country would be about 5,180,000, and his percentages year by year have been drawn from that possible increase, but the census has disappointed us in

that respect, and I have no doubt that if those figures were gone over, most probably they would show a greater difference to the detriment of the last ten years than the first ten years. But I do not wish to deal with the total trade of the country, or to include in my estimates the imports, because there is no doubt about it that the imposition of duties would have an effect upon the imports. For instance, it drove United States wheat out of the Nova Scotia markets, and we supply the Nova Scotia markets ourselves from Canada, and instead of exporting the wheat, as we did before, to England, we are sending it to our Maritime Provinces. It had that effect upon our export trade, and our import trade, because, of course, this grain used to come in from the United States. Therefore, I confine myself, in the returns that I have prepared, to the exports only, because after all we must be guided by the exports. It is the exports with which we have to meet our liabilities and pay for the imports that the people require. Therefore, any failure in our ability to export means a failure in our ability to pay. There can be no doubt about that, I think. If we exported less during the second decade, notwithstanding what the National Policy has done for us in certain manufactures, than we exported in the first decade, it is clear to me that the people of Canada cannot be as well off, and there must be something wrong to bring about such a state of affairs. I find that in calculating the percentages of exports per head between 1868 and 1879 the exports were \$20.33 per head, but between 1880 and 1890 the exports per head, according to the percentages calculated, are only \$19.78 per head; but as I told you before, these percentages were based upon a population in excess of what the census shows.

Hon. Mr. PROWSE—That would make the percentage larger.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—There would be a greater difference against the second decade. Of course, if our exports amount to \$90,000,000 a year, and they are divided into 5,180,000 people, the percentage must be less than if they were divided into a smaller number. The value of domestic exports during the first twelve years is \$770,000,000; the value of the total exports between 1880 and 1890 is \$903,000,000, or an annual average of \$64,778,000 for the first twelve