

countries must take the initiative toward reestablishment of free trade to enable Germany and other debtor nations to pay their creditors. Such measures as lifting restrictions on foreign currency, and consolidating short term credits will fail, he said, so long as customs barriers remain.

In closing this phase of my argument may I place on Hansard a statement by one of the world's greatest economists, Sir George Paish, as follows:

The basic industries of every country to-day are those whose products enjoy an international market. With prosperous basic industries, nations are prosperous. With their basic industries in depression, nations are in difficulties.

And again:

Restore the basic industries to prosperity and every nation will regain its prosperity.

He continues:

If the nations will now remove the mental, political, and artificial obstacles which they have erected so vigorously in recent years to the exchange of the world's products, the grave danger confronting them will steadily disappear, and they will enter upon a new period of greater trade expansion than they have ever experienced. In this way and this way alone can the world's present unemployment and financial problems be solved.

And in conclusion:

How is it possible for anyone in any country to have any confidence in the future when every country is engaged in greater or lesser degree in shutting out the products of other countries, and by so doing shutting in its own products? And this too at a time when nations are in debt as never before and need ever-widening markets in which to sell their products in order to honour their obligations.

The poem by James Russell Lowell entitled "The Present Crisis," although written fifty years ago, is applicable to the present time. I should like to quote one verse for the benefit of the right hon. leader of the government. It reads:

For mankind are one in spirit, and an instinct
bears along,
Round the earth's electric circle, the swift
flash of right or wrong;
Whether conscious or unconscious, yet
humanity's vast frame
Through its ocean-sundered fibres feels the
gush of joy or shame;—
In the gain or loss of one race all the rest
have equal claim.

I come now to another phase of my argument. I should like to refer to a statement made a few days ago in the parliament of Great Britain by Mr. Neville Chamberlain, the Imperial jingoist. He said:

The ties of the empire have been wearing dangerously thin. Canada had become to a great extent dependent upon United States finance and in the absence of any preferential agreement with the United Kingdom she

might have found it extremely difficult to refuse a new offer of reciprocity from her great neighbour to the south, which would definitely link their fortunes together to such an extent as would cause a divergence between Canada and Great Britain.

Where did Mr. Neville Chamberlain get the inspiration which caused him to utter that libel against the Canadian people? Was it from his contact with the jingoists of Canada around the imperial conference table? Let Neville Chamberlain come out to Canada; let him meet the widows, the sisters and mothers of the 60,000 glorious dead of our country, and then say that the ties of empire are slipping. He took good care to wait until he crossed the Atlantic before making such a statement. Let him come back to Canada and visit the military hospitals at Ste. Anne and other places in Canada where men are suffering, broken in body and mind because of their efforts in defence of the empire, and make the statement that the bonds of empire are slipping. Let him come to this parliament of Canada where 245 members, the elected representatives of the Canadian people, without one dissenting voice, vote \$50,000,000 a year as a partial contribution to the disability suffered by thousands of Canadians in the great war and would make it four times as much if that would bring those people back to health and strength, and then let him answer the question as to whether the bonds of empire are slipping in this country.

When the conflagration broke out in 1914, thousands of loyal Canadian citizens, in common with other loyal sons from other parts of the empire, flocked to the seat of war to assist the mother country in that struggle. By their meeting on the blood-stained fields of Europe, by the hardships which they endured, by the common obstacles which they had to surmount, by the common death which many of them died, they have given the answer to Neville Chamberlain that all the Chamberlains between here and the nether regions cannot alter the fact that Canada is loyal to Great Britain and the British crown.

Then we have the other insinuations in this parliament that because we oppose these agreements we are not loyal to the motherland. The other day the Solicitor General (Mr. Dupré) stated that my hon. friends opposite had secured from Great Britain preferences that we never could obtain. What is the attitude of the Conservative party in this country towards British preferences? Let me go back to 1897, to the first time in the history of Canada that a real preference was granted by the Canadian parliament