

An Act to confirm a lease made between the Guelph Junction Railway Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and for other purposes.

An Act to incorporate the Peterborough, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster Railway Company.

An Act to confirm an agreement between the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and to grant further powers to the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Company.

An Act respecting the South Ontario Pacific Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Central Counties Railway Company.

An Act further to amend the Act thirty-sixth Victoria, chapter sixty-one, respecting the Trinity House and Harbour Commissioners of Montreal.

An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service, for the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1891, and the 30th June, 1892, and for other purposes relating to the Public Service.

### WAYS AND MEANS—THE TARIFF.

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron). I next come to deal with our export trade with our sister colony of Newfoundland. During the first period, our average export to the Province of Newfoundland was \$2,064,000; during the second period it fell to \$1,795,000; and during the last period of six years, under the influence of the National Policy, it fell to \$1,523,000, showing a decrease from the first period to the third period of 26 per cent. But it may be said by some of the supporters of the National Policy that it increased our trade relations with Great Britain, the country with which we are so intimately connected, and with which I hope we shall continue to be intimately connected. But even with Great Britain the National Policy has failed to extend our trade. Let me draw your attention to the following facts, which are at the disposal of any one who will examine the record placed at our disposal by the Government. During the first period, under the administration of the Liberal party of Canada, our total average trade with Great Britain amounted to \$93,617,000, in the second period it was \$84,526,000, and in the last period it was \$84,419,000, or a decrease of our trade with Great Britain from the first period to the third period of \$9,198,000, or about 10 per cent. Now we will take the exports to Great Britain and see how they stand. In the first period the average export amounted to \$42,003,000, in the second period to \$45,312,000, and in the third period to \$42,426,000, or an increase between the first and the third period of \$23,000, or only 1 per cent. Then take the imports from Great Britain, and you find that during the first period they amounted to \$51,633,000, during the second period to \$42,516,000, and during the third period to \$41,996,000, or a decrease from the first to the third period of \$9,637,000, or about 19 per cent. What was our trade with the United States during the same periods? Our total trade with the United States in the first period amounted to \$81,670,000, in the second period to \$81,770,000, and in the third period to \$88,172,000, so that the increase of our trade with the United States from the first to the third period was \$6,502,000, or 8 per cent. Then take our export trade. We exported to the United States in the first period \$31,863,000, in the second period \$37,639,000, and in the third period \$40,102,000, or an increase from the

first to the third period of \$8,239,000, or 25 per cent. Then, if we take the imports from the United States, we find that in the first period they amounted to \$49,823,000, in the second period to \$44,434,000, and in the third period to \$48,072,000, or a decrease between the first and the third period of \$1,751,000, or about 3½ per cent. Now let us compare the condition of our trade with the United States with the condition of our trade with England by percentages. I have shown that the decrease in our total trade with Great Britain has amounted to about 10 per cent., while our total trade with the United States has increased by 8 per cent. I have shown that the exports to Great Britain have only increased by 1 per cent., while there is an increase in our exports to the United States of 25 per cent. Further, I have pointed out that the imports from Great Britain have decreased by 19 per cent., while the decrease in our imports from the United States only amounts to 3½ per cent. The English markets are free. There is no barrier to keep us out. The markets of the United States are barred against the introduction of many of the products of Canada, and yet in spite of the National Policy our trade with the United States is growing, while our trade with free trade England is decreasing, proving, beyond a doubt, that the United States market is the natural market for Canada. My hon. friend from Albert (Mr. Weldon) spoke the other night in these words:

“The National Policy is calculated to develop foreign trade.”

If it has been calculated to develop foreign trade, it has certainly come very far short of the calculation. Further, the hon. gentleman said:

“Its aim and purpose is to develop foreign trade.”

If that is so, it has come far short of its aims and purposes. In view of the figures I have quoted, and in view of the returns which have been laid on the Table of the House, I will ask the hon. member for Albert if he believes that the foreign trade of our country is being developed. The hon. member for Albert tells us what his impression is as to the English markets. He says:

“The English market for our farmers, as every one knows who will study our statistical tables, has been a growing market. We sell twice the bulk of agricultural products in the British Islands than we did forty years ago, and during the same interval the American market has shown no growth whatever.”

I do not think it is a very extraordinary development of our foreign trade that it should be doubled with Great Britain in forty years, but, when the hon. gentleman says that our market with the United States has been at a standstill ever since, it is clear that he has not understood the statistical tables which show that our whole trade with the United States derived from the fisheries, the forests, the minerals and every other source of export amounted to only \$8,931,000 forty years ago, while now in agricultural products alone our export trade with them amounts to nearly \$14,000,000. Yet, the hon. gentleman tells us that our trade with the United States was practically at a standstill. The hon. gentleman was not satisfied with that, and he thought he might hold out some hope for the future. He says:

“Further, I am proud to say, there is on the English horizon a cloud the size of a man's hand, indicating a change of policy to our advantage.”