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Tariff Protection Fact, Not Theory

At the height of their season the Southern States' surplus of fruit and vegetables is dumped on the Canadian market in carloads, taking the cream off the trade which Middlesex and other home producers have made their investment in order to supply. Our trifling customs duty is collected on the invoice price, represented at such seasons by little more than the cost of gathering and crating.

Ontario market gardeners and fruit growers have long sought redress from this unfair competition. Their organizations united in an appeal to Mackenzie King for a modest 20 per cent. ad valorem duty on fruits and vegetables OF KINDS PRODUCED IN THIS COUNTRY. No action.

The King Government also refused to put into effect Section 47a of the Customs Act, which provides that the governor-in-council, where it is deemed that Canadian producers' interests are being prejudicially affected by imports, to value such goods for duty at what is held to be their fair market value.

On July 13, almost immediately after the Meighen Government came in, the customs department issued an order giving effect to this section of the Act. Here are the valuations now placed upon fruit and vegetable products from the United States:

Beets	2c.	Cantaloupes	5c.
Carrots	1½c.	Pears, choice	2½c.
Asparagus	10c.	Pears, fancy	3½c.
Potatoes	2c.	Plums and Prunes	3c.
Onions	1½c.	Raspberries	17c.
Celery	2c.	Peaches	4c.
Cabbage	1½c.	Cauliflower	2½c.
Cucumbers	3c.	Spinach	3c.
Tomatoes	5c.	Lettuce	3c.

The fixing of these values has had the effect of stabilizing the market, and gives some needed protection to hard-working Canadian market gardeners and fruit growers. The present Minister of Customs is the first to make use of this legislation, and his action is another proof that Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen will carry out his pledge of adequate protection to the agricultural industry. To support that policy, vote for

A. King Hodgins

Conservative Candidate in

East Middlesex