

made with our American friends in which certain kinds of fish from the Maritime provinces were allowed to go into the United States free of duty. While they could not break the treaty they discovered that they could put a duty on the cans, and thus they shut out those importations. Certain manufacturers of this country attempted to invade the American market a few years ago and commenced to make a few sales; but they were immediately assailed by the American authorities under some plea or other; they were haled into the courts, and they were glad to get out with their lives at a loss of \$20,000. Therefore, they will leave that market severely alone in the future.

The British manufacturer of agricultural machinery made the same mistake. When the American market was made free to them, they thought they would invade that market. Their goods are piled up in one of the coast cities—if they are not there now they were there for a considerable time—and they were forced to get out of that market by very much the same kind of treatment. The fact is, disguise it as we may, that the people of Canada, whether engaged in manufacturing or in agriculture, will not be allowed to get into the American market to any great extent. The Americans will find some means to prevent us from occupying that market, even if we could successfully do so under existing conditions.

Mr. OLIVER: Is trade between Canada and the United States increasing or decreasing?

Mr. WRIGHT: It may be increasing, but it is increasing because we are buying goods from them, not because we are selling them goods to any appreciable extent.

Mr. OLIVER: So my hon. friend wants to continue a condition under which we shall be less able to sell them goods?

Mr. WRIGHT: I say we will not be allowed to sell to any great extent.

Mr. CARVELL: The Minister of Finance says that our exports to the United States are increasing.

Mr. WRIGHT: Not to any appreciable extent. Our total sales to the United States hardly equal what we are allowing to come in from the United States duty free, and that is over one-third of our total importations from that country. Of course, where you have countries lying side by side along an imaginary boundary line of

.. [Mr. Wright.]

four thousand miles, there is bound to be a certain quantity of goods cross—even if they are only going through to some other country—hailed by the American railways, financed by their banks and giving employment to their people.

Mr. OLIVER: Do I understand that the hon. gentleman objects to our goods going across that way?

Mr. WRIGHT: I am not taking objection; the objection comes from our American friends. They say unless they are allowed to be the agents of Canada, unless their financial concerns do the business for us, unless we are willing to become 'adjuncts,' mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, unless we are prepared to take that ignominious position, we shall not be allowed to trade.

Mr. OLIVER: But the Finance Minister says we are increasing our trade with them.

Mr. WRIGHT: It may please the hon. gentleman to adopt that humble attitude, but some of us do not feel like getting down on our knees. Now, with regard to the question of potatoes, let me point out that there has hardly been a year for many years when if potatoes have not been very plentiful in some sections of Canada, they have been plentiful in other sections. Taking Canada over and the United States over, the prices for potatoes obtained by farmers in Canada have been as good as those obtained by the farmers in the United States. In the town where I live, I had the opportunity a few weeks ago of buying New Brunswick potatoes and paying \$1.40 a bag for them. And they were fairly good potatoes,—they grow fairly good potatoes down there; I do not think they are any better than are usually grown in the district I represent. It is a very unusual thing for us to buy anything but local potatoes in the section from which I come; but during the early part of last season we were subject to a very severe drought, and the potato crop last year was very small indeed in our locality. In other parts of Ontario they had a fairly good crop. Prices have ruled high in Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal and other large cities, and I should think that in Montreal and Toronto, where hundreds of thousands of bushels of potatoes have been marketed, our New Brunswick friends and our Prince Edward Island friends would have found a market sufficient to absorb all their surplus crop of potatoes and afford them a fairly good profit upon their product.

I hope we shall not be subject to another