

I ask honourable members now to watch the operation of this treaty. I ask them particularly to deserv how many of the vast army of unemployed in this country it puts back to work. The burden of unemployment grows upon our backs. It is the major difficulty which confronts our country. It is a baffling and terrible one. Does the honourable member seriously think he is stepping forward the breadth of a hair to solve it by this treaty? I venture to tell him that in respect of this problem he is stepping backwards and his difficulties will be greater than they were before. Already there are industries which are suffering, and as to which concessions have been asked. There are men on the streets who had work before the treaty came into effect. Already the army on relief has increased because of it, and I do not know that we have witnessed any good results to speak of. The honourable member says the effect of the treaty has been all right so far. Well, I have not the latest figures. Perhaps the honourable member could furnish them to me.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: What figures?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Figures showing the results in respect of our trade with the United States since the treaty went into effect, the 1st of January. United States exports diminished over the whole world in January as compared with December. Their world exports in December were \$223,555,000; in January, after this treaty was in effect, they diminished to \$197,958,000—a drop of about \$25,000,000. But will the honourable member note this? While the world exports of the United States were dropping, immediately after this treaty went into effect their exports to Canada began to rise. They were for January \$26,990,000 as against \$21,760,000 in December—an increase of \$5,230,000.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: What about our exports?

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Then we come to our exports. The honourable member did not know I had them.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Oh, yes.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: In December we sold to the United States \$26,937,000 worth. In January, after the treaty went into effect, we sold them \$22,934,000. So in a declining world export trade the United States' sales to Canada went up. In the same period our sales to the United States went down. I have not statistics beyond the end of January. I should be surprised if that disparity continued, at least with the

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same intensity; but up to that time there is no indication of any service done to us under this treaty. There is a warning which perhaps we had better reflect on once more.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I may say that our increase of exports to the United States for last February was practically double.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Double of what?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Our increase was double that of the United States.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Our increase of exports to them in February was double their increase to us?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I say so, speaking from memory.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not think so. I know the honourable member believes he is telling me the fact, but I cannot believe he is correct. However, we shall have the figures later. But certainly that did not apply to the month of January; the very contrary applied.

I have stated these things, honourable members, merely to impress upon the House that reciprocity is just of the same nature as any other bargain between man and man. It may be skilfully, ably and fairly executed; it may be poorly completed and poorly handled. The bargain may be good, it may be bad. Certainly we all hope the bargain is good. Undoubtedly it would be far better for this world if we had a universal levelling down of tariffs. But to think that Canada an export country, Canada a young country, Canada a debtor country, can itself lead the world and take responsibility of leadership on itself—such a thought is pure fantasy. We have to be careful in bargains, though they be in the right direction, for they may in themselves be disastrous. It is all a matter of the terms.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I desire to tell my right honourable friend that our exports to the United States in February, 1936, showed an increase of \$3,258,000, as compared with \$1,991,000 in the same month a year ago.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: That has nothing to do with the question. What I want to know is, how does our increase or decrease in exports to the United States, whichever it is, compare with United States' exports to us since the treaty went into effect. That is the only way to judge the treaty.