

almost unanimously been asking for freer trade with the United States, and we could have it without hurting any portion of this country. Yet my hon. friend and his colleagues absolutely refuse to extend the trade of Canada where it can be carried on for nothing and still give splendid results and be profitable. The people of the United States are probably the richest people in the world at the present time. During the past two years that this war has been waging they have made thousands of millions of dollars on account of the war, and they want to buy our goods, whereas practically every other country to which my hon. friend can go in order to make a trade arrangement has become more or less impoverished by the war. I do not for a moment mean to say that if my hon. friend made a trade arrangement with any of the nations that are now engaged in this war, it would not pay for the goods it bought. No doubt it would do so; otherwise it would not buy the goods. But what I want to point out is that we have right at our own door a hundred million people wanting to buy our goods.

Mr. EDWARDS: Wanting to buy what?

Mr. TURRIFF: All the natural products that can be produced on any piece of land in any part of the Dominion of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Mr. COCKSHUTT: What are they to do with them?

Mr. GRAHAM: Look at the trade returns.

Mr. TURRIFF: We need not care what they will do with them. Surely my hon. friend does not need to worry about what they will do with the implements he manufactures if they buy them and pay cash for them. It does not matter to him whether they plough the ground with them or whether they leave them out on the ground to rot. If they buy the goods and pay cash for them, what more does my hon. friend want? Here we have a hundred million people wanting to buy our goods, offering to buy them, wanting to better our trade relations, to get our goods in and pay for them, and what more can any one ask for is something that I cannot understand. So far as we in the West are concerned, we produce practically only the natural products of the soil. The prairies are not a manufacturing section of Canada. I believe that for centuries we shall not be a manufacturing country out there, for the simple reason that the cost of living is higher in that part of the

[Mr. Turriff.]

country than it is in Eastern Canada, and that we have not the raw materials. The advantage of shipping in the raw material and paying freight on it as against bringing in the manufactured goods is not sufficient to overcome the extra cost of manufacturing. In most things, at all events, we shall not be manufacturers in the West; we shall be producers of natural products—wheat, oats, barley, flax, cattle, horses, sheep, hogs and everything that is produced on the farms. We shall sell these things and buy our manufactured products from the manufacturers in Eastern Canada if we can get them anything like as cheaply as we can get them elsewhere.

Mr. BLAIN: What about Winnipeg as a manufacturing city?

Mr. TURRIFF: Winnipeg does some assembling and manufacturing.

Mr. BLAIN: It ranks third among the manufacturing cities of Canada.

Mr. TURRIFF: I know perfectly well what the trade returns are, but Winnipeg is not a manufacturing city in the sense that Montreal and Toronto are. There are certain things that we manufacture in the West; Winnipeg will be a large assembling point. But even if we do some manufacturing, our main business will be agriculture and its associated industries. We shall sell those products wherever we can sell them to the best advantage and we shall buy the manufactured products that we use to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars, thus making the western country the best market for the Canadian manufacturer. What does the Canadian manufacturer want? To my mind, if he took the proper view of the matter, he would want to put the western farmer in a position to get the best price for what he grows and produces. What does the western farmer do with his money? He does not bury it. He sends it into the towns and villages near where he lives; from there it goes to the wholesalers in Winnipeg and from there it goes East to pay for manufactured goods. Why not give the Canadian farmer in the West the best advantage that you can give him so that he will be a better customer for the Eastern manufacturer than he can possibly be so long as you circumscribe his market? The Canadian farmer is not asking for protection. He is not asking that duty be imposed on any one thing that he grows. No farmers' organization in the Prairie Province will ask that duties be placed on