

are better off and your farmers have a home market, and every one knows that the home market is the life of the farmer. Talk about your transportation facilities, you do not need so much of them if you have your market right at your own door. Why, the city of Toronto alone consumes as much farm products as are exported from the whole country. If that is the case, you can see at once the value of the home market to the farmer. You can see of what value these industrial centres that are springing up are to the farmers of this country. I submit it as a sound axiom that cannot be gainsaid, that the true policy for Canada is to protect it against the inroads of all foreign countries. Canada for the Canadians; Canada for home made goods; Canada for the bone and the sinew and the muscle of the artisans and mechanics of this country. There is nothing that can do so much for the workingmen, for the mechanics of this country, as to give them constant, steady employment, day in and day out, summer and winter, in the factories and various enterprises of industrial life in this country. That has been proved time and again. Much of the resources of Canada, much of its development and its material interests is due to that wise, statesmanlike policy which was introduced in 1878, which became the backbone of this country, and has been known ever since as the great National Policy. That was the remedy brought down to cure certain ills under which we were labouring, and we have need to return to the principles enunciated in 1878, and we cannot do it too quickly. Do not wait until our industries are closed down before you stretch out your hands to help them. Millions of capital will be wiped out before this Tariff Commission reports. Many mills which today are not closed are in a precarious condition. I do not wish to paint things worse than they are, but the rosy statement of the hon. gentleman this afternoon is not borne out by the facts. When the industries of this country are not receiving from the Finance Department the attention they should receive, our interests are bound to suffer. Only a few changes in the tariff have been brought down—only two or three. One I think dealt with the white lead industry, an industry new to the country, and it remains to be seen whether or not that industry will flourish. But, I submit, it will be far wiser and safer to maintain the industries already established by giving them a limited increase of tariff than by encouraging new industries. The hon. minister proposes to increase the tariff on pig lead from 5 per cent to 25 per cent and on ground lead to 35 per cent, taking no account of the mixed paint manufacturers, the main part of whose products is composed of this white lead he is dealing with. They will be heard from in this connection. He is causing a vast increase in the price of their raw material and gives them no increase on their manufactured product.

Mr. COCKSHUTT.

True, when we come to deal with the tariff one item falls against the other, but I contend that the tariff should be now high and now low, just according as the needs of the country require it should be applied, so as to meet the emergency of the moment and suit the times. We must have regard to our environment and our conditions, and if we do, we will give these industries I have enumerated a helping hand. If we had regard to our present condition, we would increase the protection to the cement industry and to the woollen mills, and we would give to the various other enterprises I have mentioned the increased duties called for. In this way we would retain to the workingmen of this country their daily bread; we would furnish them with the labour they so much need. While the hon. gentlemen opposite may say that this is an agriculture country and recommend all men to go on the farm, I submit, as a proposition that cannot be gainsaid, that in order to build up a great Dominion we must have a variety of industries. All men are not fitted for the farm or for trade. Some make better artisans and mechanics. And in order to have a variety of industries we must have these industries encouraged by the government, and I hold the government responsible for not having done and for not doing now what they well know should be done and done immediately. Petitions have come asking for greater protection. I have had in my desk for five months a number of letters from binder twine men requesting me to bring the question of that industry before parliament, but I was assured at different times that this government was likely to act in its behalf, and therefore did not press their demand. I say it is a little short of criminal negligence that millions of capital and thousands of hands should be turned out of employment and sent out upon the streets without their daily bread being provided because this government refuses to do what it knows to be its duty. That is a fact which the hon. gentlemen opposite cannot gainsay. They may say that binder twine should be free because the west wants it. But how much more would it cost the farmer if a cent or two were added to the cost. The average farmer would not pay more than 50 cents or \$1 per year. Besides a very large part of the stock in these binder twine factories is in the hands of the farmers. I have been told by a binder twine manufacturer, who went into the matter very carefully, that at least 40,000 farmers hold stock in the binder twine factories in this country. Is there any more legitimate enterprise into which the farmers could go as a manufacturing enterprise? It is a simple thing that can be made easily and that is universally in use and is well understood. But still this government, for the sake of a few cents per head to the farmers, refuses to extend a helping hand to the