

them deriving great benefits from the Canadian Pacific Railway, as, no doubt, they have in certain localities. When I went from Calgary to Edmonton, I said to several gentlemen that they must have been greatly benefited by the continuation of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Edmonton, and a merchant answered me, with a sneer: "Benefit! benefit! Before the Canadian Pacific Railway was built, we could get our goods freighted up from Calgary for 75 cents per hundred, paying half the freight in trade, and even the whole of it. Now I have got to pay 82 cents per hundred and the whole of the money goes out of the country." Such is the condition of things that the farmers in that country are labouring under. Now, there was another statement that the Minister of Agriculture made last session in the Senate Chamber. No doubt, he gave great cheer to the manufacturers of Canada when he showed them that between 1879 and 1883 there was a total of \$8,240,000 of free goods brought into Canada. The Minister went on to say that they were continually increasing the free list to the benefit of the manufacturers; and between 1884 and 1888, \$9,560,000 worth of goods came into Canada free of duty, which were in the interest of manufacturers; from 1888 to 1892 the amount of goods on the free list had increased to \$13,167,000, all in the interest of the manufacturers of this country. He said that he had told them again and again: We have promised you that we will enlarge the free list in your favour just as rapidly as you will lay your plans before us. Now, what effect has this upon the farmers of the country? Sir, every article that is placed upon the free list, although it is entirely in the benefit of the manufacturers of this country, imposes an additional burden upon the workingmen and farmers, because the tariff must be increased and the revenue has got to be raised. The Minister of Agriculture told us that we paid \$1.50 duties more last year per head than we had done for some years past; so that, ever since the introduction of the National Policy down to the present time, every revision of the tariff has steadily increased the burdens on the workingmen and the agricultural community of Canada. The Minister of Trade and Commerce, in a speech that he delivered last fall, stated that they intended to revise the tariff, and that in reality they had been continually revising the tariff since 1879 down to the present time. We know that in 1879 25 per cent was placed upon agricultural implements, and that rate of protection has gone up until it is now 35 per cent. For instance, we know that at first cotton prints were 28 per cent, and they are now 32½ per cent; that is an illustration of the way the tariff has been revised. There is a large number of articles upon the tariff list which ought to be removed in the interest of the farmers of this country. Sir, have the Minister of Finance and the committee who are revising the tariff, carefully examined the

Mr. McMILLAN.

list that was prepared by the North-west Council, when they memorialized the Government to put a number of articles upon the free list? Let me enumerate some of the articles: Woollen hose, 10 cents per pound, and 30 per cent. On goods costing \$4.87 per dozen, the duty is equal to 31 per cent, but on goods costing \$1.22, the duty is 50½ per cent. On gray or unbleached cotton, costing 6 cents, the duty is 31½ per cent; on that costing 3 cents, the duty is 48½ per cent. On blankets, the duty is 10 cents per pound and 30 per cent. On those costing 49 cents per pound, the duty is 40 2-5 per cent, while on those costing 16 cents per pound, it is equal to 82 per cent. That is an example of the favour and sympathy which this Government extends to the workingman and to the farmer, especially to the farmers in the North-west, where these goods are required in large quantities; and that is the manner in which the tariff imposes burden after burden on the shoulders of the working classes. Let me state with regard to the duties on iron that it would have been a blessing to the farmers if there had not been a single pound of iron ore found in Canada. Why do I make this statement? I do so because the Government have placed a duty of \$4 per ton on pig iron, and have given a bounty of \$2 per ton on all pig iron manufactured in this country. Has this action encouraged the industry? By no means. The Government have also placed \$2 per ton on scrap iron which comes here and is manufactured, thereby preventing our native iron being used to the extent which would otherwise be the case. It is clear that this system is a curse to the country, and that the farmers would have obtained their implements cheaper, and every other iron article cheaper if there had not been a superabundance of iron ore in this country; but the Government have framed a tariff, and imposed duties with the object of encouraging the iron industry, but which did not encourage it. No bonus should have been given for iron manufactured out of scrap, but only for that manufactured out of our native ores. That, however, is an example of the manner in which the Government have maintained monopolies, that is a fair sample of the way in which they are subsidizing the manufacturers. The shares of the cotton manufacturing companies are going up steadily in value, as are the shares in all other monopolies, while, at the same time, the value of farm property is steadily declining. Let me state once for all that unless the Government take active steps to relieve the people of the burdens imposed on them, their term of office will certainly not be a long one. Last session I warned hon. gentlemen opposite that a cloud was on the horizon, perhaps not bigger than a man's hand, which would overspread the heavens. That cloud has spread over the length and