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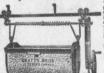
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BEATTY BROS., Fergus, Ont.

THE TARIFF CHANGES ASKED BY THE FARMERS

ed on the Ottawa government last week was that pertaining to the need for a reduction in the tariff. The full text of the petition was as fol-

"That we strongly favor reci-procal free trade between Canada and the United States in all horti-cultural, agricultural and animal products, spraying materials, fertili-zers, illuminating, fuel and lubricat-ing oils, cement, fish and lumber. "2. Reciprocal free trade letween the two countries in all agricultural." "1. That we strongly favor reci-

"Z. Reciprocal free trace tetween the two countries in all agricultural implements, machinery, vehicles and parts of each of these; and, in the event of a faverable arrangement being reached, it be carried into effect through the independent action of the respective Governments, rather than by the hard and fast reciprocal testing the contempts of a treaty.

"3. We also favor the principle of the British preferential tariff, and urge an immediate lowering of the duties on all British goods, to onehalf the rates charged under the general tariff schedule, whatever that may be; and that any trade advan-tages given in the United States in reciprocal trade relations be extend-

reciprocal trade relations be extended to Great Britain.

"4. For such further gradual reduction of the remaining preferential tariff as will ensure the establishment of complete free trade between Canada and the Motherland

within ten years.
"5. That the farmers of this country are willing to face direct taxation such form as may be advisable to make up the revenue required under new tariff conditions."

STRONG ARGUMENTS

Very strong arguments were brought out in favor of the desired changes. Mr. W. B. Faweett, of New Brunswick, showed that on his farm this year he lost \$360.00 on his farm this year ne lost the hay crop and \$260.00 cn his straw-berry crop alone because of his in-ability to market his products in the New England states. This loss was New England states. This loss was estimated on a basis of a reduction of only one half of the present United States tariff.

Mr. R. McKenzie, secretary of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, claimed that for every \$100 farmers are taxed by reason of the customs duty, on agricultural implements, duty, on agricultural implements, the government gets \$14.00 and the manufacturer \$86.00. On cement the government gets \$8.00 and the manu-facturer \$92.00. On boots and shoes and on leather the government gets \$6.00 and the manufacturer \$94.

MANUFACTURERS' POWER
"The tariff schedule of 1907 contains 711 items, 221 of which are free. Of these free items farmers get the benefit of free binder twine cream separators, and corn for feed-ing purposes. Practically all the free items are raw material used by manufacturers in the manuused by manufacturers in the manufactures. As farmers we do not object to the principle of permitting raw material used by manufacturers to be imported free cf duty. But to be imported free cf duty. But we do object to a tariff which, while we do object to a tariff which, while giving them this just privilege, per-mits them to levy unjustly a heavy tribute off the people who use their goods, by the higher prices they are enabled to charge through the nower given them by the customs tariff.

"The wested which has hitherte

"The method which has hitherto leen pursued in this country of colseen pursued in this country of col-lecting revenue through the customs duties, by virtue of which one group of individuals is placed in a posi-tion where they can levy toll upon their neighbors, is inherently un-sound. It is so because it destroys sound. It is so because it destroys the balance of equity in taxation. By virtue of what principle will you

The most important request made to the working man? On what prinin order to give better prices to the farmer?

"Sir Richard Cartwright, than hom there is no better authority in Canada on statistics and fiscal ques-Canada on statistics and ascar ques-tions, is credited with making the statement, in 1:93, that 'If you add together the sum that has been paid together the sum that has been paid into the treasury and the largest sum that has been extracted from the pockets of the people for the benefit of a few private and favored individuals, you will find that the total for the last feurteen years is hardly less than \$1,000 000,000." "You, sir, have also been eredited with a statement made about the same time that "For every dollar that yoes into the Dominion treasury.

same time that 'For every dollar that goes into the Dominion treasury, two or three dollars go into the peckets of the manufacturers,' and almost every farmer in Canada will agree with you in this, even if some of them differ from you upon other public guestions." public questions.

THE QUESTION OF HOME MARKETS

In reply to the argument that pro tection builds up a home market for Canadian farm products, Mr. Mctection builds up a home market for Canadian farm products, Mr. Mc-Kensie gave figures from the census returns which, he claimed, indicated that while the total salaries paid by all the manufacturers in Canada in 1906 amounted to \$162.155,578, the manufacturers were enabled to exact that year, through the protection of the tariff, from the people of Can-ada upwards of \$190,000,000, or ada upwards of \$190,000,000 about \$28,000,000 more than paid out in salaries. other words,'' he said, other words," he said, "if the people of Canada had paid all the salaries of the em-ployees of the manufacturers for that year they would still have had \$28,000,000 left to contribute to the revenue of the country from the excess prices they had paid due to the tariff."

PURCHASING VALUE DECREASED
"We have found," said Mr. McKenzie, "that, through the exactions
of transportation and the oppressive
customs tariff, the cost of living and maintaining a home is advanced from 25 to 30 per cent. That is to from 25 to 30 per cent. That is to say, that for every dollar's worth of goods the farmer on his homestead has to buy, the customs duty adds from 25 to 30 cents. The staple product of Western farms is wheat and the purchasing power of a bushel of wheat is reduced 25 cents by our fiswheat is reduced 20 cents by our ma-cal system. The average price of wheat to the Western farmer this year will be approximately 75 cents of the proceeds of the sale of wheat goes towards the purchase of home comtowards the purenase of nome con-forts and to farm imprevements, every dollar of which is reduced in value 25 per cent. That is to say, that overy bushel of wheat we raise is reduced in its purchasing power by fifteen cents on account of the operation of the customs duty."

by fifteen cents on account of the operation of the customs duty."

HAMPERING INDUSTRIES

Mr. E. C. Drury, of Crown Hill, Ont., pointed cut that while the protective tariff had been introduced with the object of helping infant industries the manufacturers were now taking advantage of it, by forming combines, to crush out the competition of smaller concerns. The farmers, he said, were not saking for any system which would tax the manufacturers for the benefit of the farmers. They were not saking that one single cent be taken from any other class and given to the farmers, but they were asking that the system which was established for the benefit of the farmers of the farmers which was established for the benefit of the farmers but they were asking that the system which was established for the benefit of the farmers but they were asking that the system which was established for the benefit of the farmers but they were asking that the system which was established for the benefit of the control of the farmers but they were asking that the system of legalised robbery should be put a stop to.

(Continued on Page 12.)

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It is desirable to mention the name of this publication when writing to Advertisers tax the farmer in order to give work