

Nova Scotia. Supposing the Government applied this money to the province of Nova Scotia to build railways, and that they even allowed \$10,000 a mile, how many roads would it build? I shall enumerate: It would build a railway from Yarmouth along the coast line through Shelburne to Lockport, and thence to Halifax along the southern coast of Nova Scotia. It would further build the following railways:—The Nova Scotia Southern Railway; the Hants Central and the Stewiacke Valley and Lansdowne, and a railway to Musquodoboit. It would build a railway from Sunnybrae or from James River on the Intercolonial Railway to Country Harbour; a railway from Heatherton or Tracadie, in my county, on the Intercolonial Railway to Guysboro'. It would build a railway from Hawkesbury to Louisburg, with branches from St. Peters to Arichat and L'Ardoise. It would build a railway from Hastings to Cheticamp; and from Orangedale to Broad Cove, with a branch to Baddeck. It would have constructed a network of railways throughout the length and breadth of Nova Scotia, and, after doing all that, a large margin would still remain to repair and build breakwaters and piers, and lighthouses on the coast for the benefit of our fishermen. Sir, the protective system as it is operated by the present Government, on the people of this country is like a candle burning at both ends. The people have to pay, either in duties to the treasury or in contributions to the combines. One end of the system is the enormous amount of money taken from the people which never gets into the treasury, but goes into the pockets of the vampire element, the combinesters, who suck the national life-blood of Canada; and the other end of the waste is the continual leakage ever going on from the treasury on account of mismanagement, extravagance and boodling. Let us compare the expenditures during the time that the Liberal Government was in power with the regime of the present Government, and we find this sad state of things well exemplified. In 1877-78, under the Mackenzie Government, our expenditure was \$23,503,658, while our opponents then contended that we should do with \$22,500,000. Look at the expenditure in 1894 under the present Government, which has reached to the enormous figure of \$37,585,025. The public debt of Canada in 1878 was \$174,957,268, and in 1894 it has reached the sum of \$308,348,023. I believe that the people of this country are becoming alarmed at the enormous magnitude of the combines, that they are becoming disgusted with the power which the combines have in this country, and that they are getting sick and tired of the National Policy. I ask hon. gentlemen opposite if it is not especially the case in the maritime provinces, and particularly so in Nova Scotia, that the people are getting

tired of it. I hear no one say, "no." Sir, I have made this statement, and I am going to prove it. I will prove that the people of Canada are getting alarmed at the fiscal policy of this Government, and at the magnitude of the illegitimate operations of the combines, and I will prove it on the statement made on the floor of the Assembly of Nova Scotia by a man who is not a Liberal, by a man who is one of the most pronounced Conservative partisans in the province of Nova Scotia, by a man who, for four years led the Opposition in the House of Assembly there, and by a man who, at the time he used the language I shall quote was one of the editors of one of the largest subsidized organs of the Conservative party in the maritime provinces, the "Morning Herald." In the session of 1893 in the Nova Scotia legislature, a Bill was introduced to incorporate the Acadian Sugar Refinery Company, Limited, and on that occasion the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Chas. H. Cahan, one of the most pronounced party men in Canada or anywhere, used the language which I shall read to the House. He is not what hon. gentlemen opposite would call a "vicious Grit hungering for office," but he was, at the time, leader of the Conservative Opposition, one of the editors of the "Morning Herald," which always gets more money from the treasury at Ottawa than any other subsidized paper in Nova Scotia. Much as I know it was against his taste, he gave use to these expressions. It is the speech of a Conservative who was basking in the sunshine of the pap which this Government had given his paper for years before, and has given it ever since. Notwithstanding that, he felt that the great majority of his own party, the Conservatives, were getting seriously and dangerously alarmed at the condition of the finances of the country, and by the large combines which are ruining the country. Here are his words, taken from Nova Scotia debates of the House of Assembly, Nova Scotia, 1893, page 143:

In regard to this Bill, a number of the corporators were his (Mr. Cahan's) personal friends, and they were men for whom he had the highest esteem; but, notwithstanding that fact, the principle of the Bill was one to which he could not agree.

I think I may correctly say here that some of these personal friends of Mr. Cahan's are sitting in this House to-night, and looking across the floor at me just now. Mr. Cahan further said:

It was a principle under which it was proposed to consolidate and combine the sugar-refining industries of the maritime provinces. Under this Bill two sugar refineries, which are located in Nova Scotia, might be purchased by this company, and a third, which was outside the province, might be united by this company controlling a major portion of the stock in that refinery. While he believed in giving a fair protection to