

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: A remedy? If I could suggest a remedy I should be taken into the present Government, because it has no remedy itself.

Hon. C. P. BEAUBIEN: Honourable gentlemen, I may be excused if I trespass on the patience of the House for just a few moments. I think that I may contend that I have been pulled and dragged and pitched into the battle. I am always interested and many times amused by the speeches of my honourable friend who sits opposite (Hon. Mr. Casgrain). In the present instance I should be also grateful for the advertisement he has given me, which goes much beyond my merits. But for the speech of my honourable friend, and for the speech that preceded it, there is a reason. The notes which they both sound may be discordant, but the motive for both is the same.

It appeared strange indeed that the measures propounded during the whole of the recent campaign by the chief of the Conservative party should be so rapidly put into execution by Parliament. It was interesting to ascertain what the attitude of the Opposition would be. I think everybody in Canada was watching and was anxious to see how the Opposition would react to such a performance. Why? The Conservative party went to the country and said, "Most of the ills that are visited upon us to-day are due to the policy inaugurated by our opponents and maintained by the Liberal party." Perhaps it would be truer to say that they were due to the firm hand of the farmers of the West driving the Liberal party. We have not forgotten the words used by the Right Hon. Mackenzie King in 1926, when he went throughout the land clamoring for freedom. Do my honourable friends on the other side of the House remember that? Freedom from what? Freedom from the pressure that came from one-tenth—let us say one-fifth—of the population of this country, the only section specially situated, selling their goods throughout the world, and wanting no protection. Evidently they ignored the fact that the other four-fifths could not live without it, and time and again the old administration had to bend its head humbly and at their command strike a row of bricks off the tariff wall, thereby throwing into idleness and even into exile tens of thousands of honest Canadian workers. The Liberals have gone down to a very humiliating defeat. I do not want to insist on that. The worst of it all is that they have gone down with a record that history will never forget. They have the unenviable

record of having forced more people out of this country than any preceding administration.

What is the attitude of the Liberal party now? Strange, very strange. On the one hand our opponents say, "At this special session called to deal with an emergency you have no mandate at all to raise the tariff." That is one attack directed against the Conservative party. What is the other one? The other one is: "How dare you come to this House with an incomplete tariff?" My honourable friend from de Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain) says: "What have you done? Why is there no protection for steel?" My hon. friend from Lethbridge (Hon. Mr. Buchanan) asks, "Why no protection for wool?" And the chief of the Liberal party exclaims with indignation, "How dare you make such a momentous alteration in the tariff?"

Honourable members, it has been made very clear to Parliament and the country that everything that could be done in an emergency is now being done. The tariff is incomplete, no doubt, but it will be completed at the next session. Why are our honourable friends so impatient? Why should the honourable gentleman from Lethbridge (Hon. Mr. Buchanan) accuse this Government, which is hardly in the saddle, of not having rescued the woolen industry of this country? I could hardly believe my ears. Why, the old administration has practically killed that industry in the country. You know it. For year after year that industry has been heard clamoring for protection, showing that it was fighting desperately to remain in existence. For ten years it has been asking for what is due to it, a reasonable measure of protection. And what has it got? Nothing but successive tariff reductions. And now the honourable gentleman from Lethbridge (Hon. Mr. Buchanan) says, "You have nothing for the wool-growers," and he has no patience with us at all. No Government ever implemented so punctually, so thoroughly, or with so much courage, the promises made during an election. That cannot be denied. But because those promises have not yet been completely implemented, our opponents are not willing to wait. What is the reason for this extraordinary attitude of the Opposition? It is this. The old Government was driven on its course by one consideration that dominated all others.

An Hon. SENATOR: Power.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: Oh, I will not say that. It was political expediency; that is what I call it.