

Britain have gone from Canada. That was the official statement made by the Prime Minister this afternoon.

Mr. MACDONALD: Oh no; it was not.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I said £100,000,000 of orders had gone to the United States and £48,000,000 to Canada up to the 1st of July.

Mr. BENNETT: Up to that time £100,000,000 from the United States and £48,000,000 from Canada.

Mr. GRAHAM: That would not be fifty per cent.

Mr. BENNETT: Was it to be assumed, in view of the fact that urgency was the whole crux of the situation, that the British Government would look to Canada for supplies when it must have been patent to the British Government that the great factories of the United States, producing material for one hundred million people, would be better able to supply their immediate wants than the factories of Canada, which were producing for only eight million people? A great deal has been said in the newspapers that has misled people. For instance, in a town in the riding of East Simcoe there is a concern that makes motor boats. A public journal said that huge orders were being given in the United States for the construction of motor boats. I was applied to as the sitting member to see if I could not have an order placed with this concern. I got in touch with the Prime Minister's office. What were the facts? The facts were that the Schwab Company of the United States had received a contract amounting to many millions of dollars from the Allies, not for these motor boats alone, but for a variety of articles, including, I assume, munitions of war. Included in that order were some two hundred or three hundred motor boats. Had the newspapers gone a little further they would have found that these motor boats were being manufactured in Canada because this concern came over to Canada and placed the order in Montreal and Quebec—at least that is the information I received from that boat company in Penetanguishene. The hon. member from South Renfrew says the British Government would not know what we could produce in Canada. Why, Sir, the first contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces were thoroughly equipped in Canada, and the British authori-

[Mr. W. H. Bennett.]

ties must have known that they were equipped in Canada. They knew that the equipment had not been sent out here. The hon. member for South Renfrew complains that shells were not made in Canada in the first instance. He is a director of a company engaged in making shells, and if they knew that shells were needed why did not his company send over a representative to ask for orders. That is the fact, and hon. gentlemen opposite know it. When war broke out, the large concerns in the United States did what the Canadian manufacturers neglected to do; they dispatched their commercial travellers or agents to Great Britain to secure orders at the outset. Any hon. gentleman who has read the magazines or newspapers knows, that London was swarming with representatives of those large concerns at the beginning of the war, and that was how they secured their first orders. As I have already said, urgency was the first consideration, and it was natural to expect that the British Government would look to the larger field. The hon. member for South Renfrew said he had been informed, and I have no doubt it is true, that Canadians had placed orders in the United States; but he will not say that they were orders for clothing, meats, canned goods, or for a thousand other articles that I could name. He says that they were simply orders for munitions, and that was to be expected.

Mr. GRAHAM: One order was for shirts.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Was the order from the British Government?

Mr. GRAHAM: I did not say that.

Mr. W. H. BENNETT: I do not know what the position may be in the hon. member's riding, but I do not think there is any complaint in my riding that the manufacturers are not getting a fair share of the work. Not only were British orders placed in Canada, but French orders as well. I know that a large number of woollen mills, including one in my own town, were employed for months in making blankets for the French army, and that order was, I assume, secured through the High Commissioner's office, or through the Department of Trade and Commerce. There were also, I understand, large orders placed throughout Canada for all kinds of woollen goods, and the entire equipment of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces was made within Canada. Sir George Perley is known as a leading business man,