

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I hope I have made it plain to my hon. friend that the world has been on a wrong and false basis, and that we are trying to get it on a right and sound basis, and the only way in which that can be done is by having regard, not for an imaginary world, but for the world in which we are living. If my hon. friend says that it is a wrong and unsound thing that all the nations of the world should have tariff walls erected against one another, I say that in principle I agree entirely with the hon. member; but if he says the way to cure the evil is for one country, perhaps the smallest of the lot, to throw down its tariff walls, while the rest of the world keeps up its tariff walls, I say that he would be a long way from providing a remedy for the condition which he hopes to cure.

Perhaps the best evidence of whether or not the government's action in proceeding slowly and cautiously, as it has done in the matter of the tariff, is a wise and a good one, may be borne out by a few statistics that more or less speak for themselves.

I shall give the House just a few figures and with that conclude. We have heard from one quarter quite a wail about the alleged deplorable condition of our country; but that is not going to help to improve the situation. It would do much more for Canada if we let it be known throughout the world exactly where and how we stand in the matter of economic revival. I have brought together a few figures as nearly up-to-date as possible for purposes of comparison, and I think they show conclusively the direction in which we are heading at the present time. These figures, by the way, I have obtained from the statistical department of the government. The figures are as follows:

The estimated outlay on building operations during the month of April, 1922, was \$14,047,198; during April, 1923, it was \$17,544,061, an increase of over three and a half millions of dollars.

Canada's trade for the month of April, 1922, was estimated at \$80,347,495, made up of imports, \$47,695,454, and exports, \$32,652,041. Our trade for the month of April, 1923, was \$122,509,396, made up of imports, \$68,181,320, and exports, \$54,328,076, an increase in the one month of 1923 of \$42,161,901. This is equivalent to an increase of about half in the total trade of last year.

Bank clearings, in April, 1922, amounted to \$1,213,021,399; in April, 1923, they amounted to \$1,267,520,018, or an increase in the one month of 1923 of \$54,498,619.

Savings deposits, another barometer of prosperity or the reverse, were for January, February, March, 1922, \$1,184,703,596; for January, February, March, 1923, \$1,218,295,721, or an increase in those three months of \$33,592,125.

The figures on immigration are still small but they reveal a similar increase for the first four months of 1922. There were 16,774 immigrants landed in Canada as against 22,240 for the first four months of 1923, or an increase of 32½ per cent. But that is only the beginning of our immigration for this year.

The question of employment has been referred to at different times. The Department of Labour works out what it describes as an index of employment on percentage basis of the available labour supply. For the 1st of May, 1922, the index number was 83.3; for the 1st May, of this year, 1923, the index number stands at 91.44.

These figures which reflect the trade of our country, the savings of our people, the employment of our people, and which reflect clearly and beyond dispute the national progress, are more eloquent of the position of our country than any words can possibly be. I would say to my hon. friends, instead of striving to make the condition of this country out to be what none of us would wish to have it, they should lay the emphasis and stress rather on those things in which we have good ground to take pride and satisfaction.

With respect to the budget proposals which the Minister of Finance has brought down, let me say just one word in conclusion. If there is one thing above another for which at this time this country has reason to be grateful to Providence, it is that we have had spared to guide us in matters of finance and tariff, the grand old gentleman at whose side in this parliament I have the honour to be seated.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN (South York): Mr. Speaker, up in the York valley where I live, there is an old settlers' road that has been in use now for over one hundred years, and on one side it is backed by a very high hill, very much wooded and very steep. It is altogether sheltered from the sun, and from that day to this the old name given to it by the settlers has been retained, that of Greenland. The snow never melts in the spring, and there are in the hillside two openings through which the winds blow at all times. As I say, the settlers called it Greenland. When I look at the hon. member for Brome (Mr. McMaster) down there in the