

he includes the farmer, the merchant, the artisan, the manufacturer and the labourer—they are all going to be protected.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. FORKE: Hon. gentlemen say, "hear, hear." I am waiting with a great deal of anxiety to learn just how all this is going to be accomplished. At all events, we are told that no one is going to be left out in the cold, that every one is going to be protected. I notice that one paper in the west says that this solution of the leader of the opposition is something like a Christmas tree; there is something on it for every one. There is green for those who are green, and tinsel for those who do not believe that all is not gold that glitters.

There is one thing I would like to make plain to this House. It is sometimes taken for granted that some of us are not friendly to Canadian industries. Now I want to make it plain beyond any possibility of equivocation that nothing would please me better than to see the industries of this country thrive and prosper and serve the people of Canada. But if we are going to have industries we want them about one hundred per cent efficient. We want all the water squeezed out of the stock, and no dividends paid on watered stock. We want exotic and artificial industries wiped out of existence. And when that is done, I feel perfectly sure, the industries of our country are not going to suffer so very much after all.

We have cheap power in Canada. Two years ago, while the premiers of two of the states of the Australian Commonwealth were here, I heard them again and again express admiration for the great rivers we had in Canada and for the tremendous water powers that were available to the people of this country. One of them said that Australia had no such privileges as Canada enjoyed in the way of cheap water power. We want to take into consideration the fact that we have this cheap water power, and that our people are just as energetic, just as intelligent, and just as industrious as the people of any other country in the world; and, given equal conditions, equal facilities and some privileges I wonder why our manufacturers cannot compete with those of any other nation in the world to-day in industries which are suited to this country. We sometimes hear about mass production, the low cost of living, depreciated currency, and a great many other things that we have to contend against in this Dominion. There may be a little in some of these factors, but I have never attached a great deal of weight to this

factor of the high cost of living, because where you find underfed and underpaid labour you will generally find that that sort of labour is inefficient, while the well paid labour in this country, living under proper conditions, is able to compete, I believe, with the labour of any other country in the world. Besides, I do not think you will ever find that by taxing people to keep industries alive you are going to solve the problem of unemployment. The whole thing is economically unsound, and is no solution of what I know is a very difficult problem at the present time. Sometimes we hear of a national policy. Yes, we want a national policy—a national policy for all the people, a policy that will suit the people of this country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Since the days of Sir John Macdonald we are living in a new Canada. This is not the Canada of Sir John Macdonald. Since his day a vast consuming and producing population has come into existence between the head of the lakes and the Rocky mountains. That fact must be borne in mind when reference is made to the national policy of the late Sir John A. Macdonald; and let me state that no amount of reasoning, no amount of argument can ever convince the people dwelling upon the prairies that a protective policy can be of any benefit to them.

Sometimes we hear a great deal about the home market. And here let me make myself quite plain; we all understand the value of a home market; every one would rejoice if Canada were able to consume all that she could produce, it would be an ideal situation. But we know the facts. We are aware that in some parts of our country production reaches such a volume that it has to find a sale in the markets of the world, and the home market, while valuable in itself, certainly will not solve our problems.

The third paragraph in the Speech deals with the question of production, and also refers to the subjects of immigration, the development of our natural resources, and the need for colonization. I should like to place emphasis on the word "colonization" because I do not believe that we should have immigration unless we can properly absorb the people who come here, unless we are able to provide them with employment, or place them upon the land or in some position where they can support themselves. Unless we can do this it would be far better not to induce immigrants to come here simply to swell the volume of unemployment which exists in Canada at the present time. The keeping of people in Canada after we get them here is a very difficult problem. I