

Listen to this sentence:

Canadian publishers ask no odds and do not advocate a tariff on foreign periodicals.

They are united in that. All they ask is that the duties upon their raw materials be removed and that they be given an opportunity to develop the Canadian publishing business as it ought to be developed and as it would be developed under freedom of entry for their raw materials. They point out these interesting facts:

1. Duties ranging from 5 per cent to 33½ per cent on 90 to 100 items of plant equipment (presses and typesetting machines are duty free).

2. Sales tax and excise tax on all materials and plant equipment.

3. Duties—22½ per cent to 32½ per cent on paper; 17½ per cent on ink; 15 per cent on original engravings; 22½ per cent on art work—to which are added sales and excise taxes.

4. Duty of 12½ cents per pound, or 22½ per cent, plus sales and excise taxes on inserts imported into Canada to be inserted into Canadian publications, the same inserts entering Canada duty free when bound in United States publications.

They do not ask for a duty on magazines; all they ask for is an opportunity to develop a Canadian enterprise which went forward more rapidly than it had done before during that brief interval in which a drawback was granted with respect to paper imported from the United States. All they ask is this privilege. While I do not know what the Minister of Finance can do now or can promise to do in regard to the budget—and I do not think he will promise much in advance—I do suggest that he give very serious consideration to this most important matter; for it is worth while in a nation such as Canada, a young nation growing up and developing with its own ideals and aims and aspirations, that we should have a great publishing business, a great press in the dominion. And the press and the publishing business will always flourish more under freedom than under repression.

Mr. MacNICOL: I want to add one further word, and I would not speak but for the remarks made by my hon. friend. I like to say something in favour of the employees; I keep their problem in front of me instead of making remarks more or less to provoke amusement. I am told that there are 250 employees in Canada engaged in printing these magazines. I went to the MacLean Publishing Company and they gave me the names and the number of magazines which they print, but I have forgotten the details. I also went to the Garden City Press on Adelaide street west, in Toronto, where I saw machinery they had got in from

[Mr. Deachman.]

the United States. They also gave me information with regard to the number of men engaged in the printing of their United States magazines. In my own riding in the old airplane plant on Dufferin street there are two firms—or rather I should say one employing quite a number of men and they have installed a good deal of new machinery. This firm is printing Liberty and another magazine the name of which I forget at the moment; it is a magazine that carries a lot of photogravure illustrations. Now I wonder what will happen to these 250 men said to be printing United States magazines.

Mr. DUNNING: Liberty is still in Canada.

Mr. MacNICOL: I know, but I was told that they might discontinue.

Mr. EULER: They themselves issued a statement that they intended to continue publishing in this country.

Mr. MacNICOL: I hope that is right, but I was told that they might discontinue. I hope none of them will discontinue publishing in Canada, but we have all read that a number of them are going to do so and I am surprised that someone on the other side is not familiar with the number of United States magazines that are published here. My information is that there are about fifty, and the loss of a goodly number of these will affect the labour market.

Mr. DUNNING: I should have said that including what are known as the pulp magazines there are somewhere in the neighbourhood of fifty American magazines published in Canada. As to the number which are still being published I cannot speak with accuracy; that is a point on which I have not accurate information at the moment, but a considerable number are still printed here.

Mr. LAWSON: Even the reformed Liberal party in its judgments, I am afraid, can hardly, through its Minister of Finance, deliver a judgment which would be approved of by the hon. member for Huron North (Mr. Deachman) and by myself, because we approach the matter from such vastly different points of view. I should like however to have a statement from the Minister of Finance with regard to an aspect of this change made by the trade agreement, and to do so I have to marshal and review a few facts so that they may be present to his mind.

The tax on advertising in these magazines was imposed in 1931. Since that time and up to the time of the negotiation of this trade agreement the circulation of thirteen American