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## SIR MELVIN JONES DISCUSSES IMPLEMENT TARIFF

Continued from Page 3

### Home Competition vs. Free Trade

When asked his opinion on Hon. Arthur Meighen's speech at Walkerton, declaring that the removal of the duty on binder twine entering Canada had ruined the Canadian binder twine industry, and intimating that a revival of the tariff might be within the sphere of practical politics, Sir Melvin said that he had not read the report, and that as the Massey-Harris company did not handle twine, it was of no particular concern to him. "However," he said, "there is one thing of which I am convinced—home competition does more to reduce prices than free trade can. Why! there is no country in the world, apart from the United States, where agricultural implements can be bought more cheaply than in Canada. Such implements are dearer in Australia, South Africa, Germany, France and England. And the United States has built up its implement industry under a tariff wall. The wall is pulled down because it is no longer needed. The States implement men can gain no more advantage from a duty on implements than a Newcastle coal dealer could from a duty on imported coal in Great Britain. "The removal of the American tariff on implements will not affect our business, at least I don't see what advantage it will be to us, and it has not affected us so far," the Canadian implement king added.

### Massey-Harris Company Would Move

That the agitation for the removal of the Canadian tariff on agricultural implements should have reached widespread proportions in the West, Sir Melvin attributed to the influence of the newspapers. He charged the newspapers with truckling to popular sentiment, with straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, with concentrating their attack on the implement duty of 15 per cent. when "the real burden, if there was one, is due to the very high tariff on other articles."

"Why," he asked, "did not the newspapers attack the tariff on harness? The farmer paid more for his harness than for his plows. And he paid a higher duty. We pay duty on 30 per cent. of the material we use in the manufacture of machinery. We pay a higher duty on these, the (to us) raw materials of manufacture, than the 15 per cent. duty on implements. Why isn't the farmer asked to agitate against the tariff on the clothing that he wears? He pays a higher duty on that than on

his implements. The real burden borne by the farmer is the burden of these other duties—in so far as he is bearing a burden at all."

But while he declared that the "raw" materials of implement manufacture bear heavier import duties than the manufactured product, Sir Melvin said that the total removal of the duty on these raw materials, and of the duty on implements as well, would compel the Massey-Harris Company to remove their factory to the States. There they would be "nearer to the markets."

"I am not a high tariff man," he said in conclusion. "I have never cast a high tariff vote, and do not intend to. We have to make up our minds, however, whether we want free trade and direct taxation or a low tariff and no direct taxation. For my own part I believe a low tariff is well suited to the conditions prevailing in our country. Experience has shown that internal competition will do more for our consumers than free trade, and will finally make for national well being."

### WAR IS HELL

Detailed figures are to hand, giving the losses, according to nationality, in the nine-months' war in the Balkans. Deaths in battle and by disease are as follows:

	Killed	Died of Disease, etc.
Turks	50,000	50,000
Bulgars	50,000	10,000
Greeks	12,000	5,000
Serbs	20,000	7,000
Montenegrins	5,000	2,000

Recapitulated there were 137,000 combatants killed, while 74,000 died from disease and other causes. In addition, 4,000 prisoners also died in captivity, while it is estimated that a further 300,000 lost their lives by massacre, disease, famine and other causes attributable to the war, making a grand total of 515,000. Furthermore the list of wounded is estimated at 350,000, a large proportion of whom have probably since died as a result of their inability to support themselves or secure proper attention.

Such is war in the 20th century of the Christian era! Is it not time an end should be put to this butchery and barbarism? War has lost its glamor. It is no longer considered to be the sport of kings, the school of manly virtues, the tonic of nations. All that kind of talk is now set down as mere rhodomontade; and war is known for what it is, General Sherman's saying that "war is hell" is also the verdict of present-day civilization.—Winnipeg Free Press.

CAEW

# "BAT"

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