

running our factories half time or with half the number of hands. The government, I know, are playing into the hands of certain elements of this country who are spreading the statement broadcast that we have more men here than we want. As a Conservative, I want to see people coming into this country and filling it up. To do that we must hold out the inducement to these people to come here, that we are going to give them work under as good conditions as the people living to the south of us, or otherwise you will land people here from the steamers and the next day you will find them in the United States.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. That is the old way; it is changed now.

Mr. BROCK. I beg your pardon, it is not changed now, and you cannot show by statistics that it is.

Mr. SCOTT. Oh, yes, we can.

Mr. BROCK. I wish to make no representations that cannot be borne out by facts. I have made the statement in this House, and I have made it elsewhere, that many of the factories in this country are working up to their full capacity so far as the hands are concerned, but the great majority of these factories are working without profit. We have got to compete with the cheaper labour in England; we have got to compete with the cheaper labour on the European continent, and being a small population we are invaded from Germany, from England, from France, from the United States, and we have no foreign market. Give us our home market, as the United States kept their own market, and having that they are able to invade the markets of other countries.

Mr. ROSS (Victoria, N.S.). The foreign markets, too.

Mr. BROCK. That kind of interruption may do for the hon. gentleman from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Ross), who does not know what markets Canada wants. We want to be able to go to the markets of the world, and I commend to the gentlemen on the treasury benches their venerable and venerated friend from Victoria, who is their leader and guide in political and trade matters.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. Within a month I was speaking to a prominent officer of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and I complained to him that they had not taken full advantage of the recent steamship service established between Canada and South Africa.

Mr. BROCK. Yes.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. My hon. friend agrees with me that they have not taken advantage of that service?

Mr. BROCK. Yes.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. Other nations are taking advantage of the trade that is offering in South Africa. The reason

this officer gave me for the Canadian manufacturers not stepping into that market was because they had a much more profitable market in Canada to-day, and that they could not supply it, much less a foreign market.

Mr. BROCK. That just proves my argument. I say our great market, our profitable market, is the home market. This is the market we want first of all, and we have not got it. We have to compete in this market with Germany and England and the United States. When we go into this market we find English goods and American goods selling at jobbing prices; and the Postmaster General would be perfectly satisfied to allow our Canadians to work without a profit, while contending against a country like the United States, who keep their own market to themselves, in which we cannot sell a dollar's worth of manufactured goods. I cannot understand it. Probably I should not urge the matter too strongly, because the hon. gentleman has been more taken up with law than with business. But as a business man I cannot understand that kind of thing.

Mr. CLARKE. He is the Minister of Labour.

Mr. BROCK. Mr. Chairman, this is a business question. The right hon. Prime Minister, when he was on this side of the House, pleading with the people of Canada to place him in power, said that he would surround himself with a body of business men who would carry on the affairs of this country on business principles. I contend that the policy propounded by this government, more particularly by the Minister of Finance, is not a business policy for this country, but is a policy to help foreign countries against this country. I do not believe he intends it; it is altogether due to his absolute ignorance of business matters. My genial friend, the Minister of Customs, who occasionally in candid moments expresses himself on the other side, who knows something about business, who knows that the Canadian market is the best market, who would not like this market to be invaded unfairly in lines in which he himself is engaged, should know better. I am astonished; but so the world goes. I would ask the hon. Postmaster General to get into confidential conversation with my hon. friend the Minister of Customs and take some advice from him, and he will find that the market we have in this country is a market which we should retain for Canada; and if we are going to induce people to come to this country who are worth having—I mean people who think and act for themselves—we must make the conditions such that when they make a comparison between this country and the United States and consider which is the best country to move to, they will decide in favour of Canada.