

There is as well a largely increased export of minerals from our Dominion, and minerals in the raw constitute a large portion of that export. It is a matter for congratulation to Canada that our mineral development is proceeding. I am waiting to hear—and I have no doubt we shall hear—hon. members of the government of the Dominion claiming credit for the mineral development of northern Ontario and northern Quebec. Perhaps they will venture to indicate by what means they are responsible. There is mineral development there. It accounts for considerable of the increase in our exports. But let us remember our duty is to see that these resources vouchsafed to us are to the utmost finished within the land that is our own, and to a minimum sent out of the country in such state that other nations and other peoples may get the advantage from them. These trade returns all indicate that this is not being done, they indicate that we are engaged to too great extent in the process of shipping raw resources in millions from our country to feed the workshops of other lands.

Looking for a moment at our imports, one cannot help but observe that we are buying from the United States very little in the way of raw resources—at least of raw resources that we do not possess ourselves. What we are buying from that country consists mainly of manufactured products—manufactured products which to the extent of seventy or eighty per cent constitute goods that can be made out of the resources of our own Dominion, or out of resources of our Dominion supplemented in part by imports which we easily can obtain. The United States have so developed their country and so directed their trade policy that they find themselves now shipping manufactured goods into Canada, goods produced by their own workmen, produced from their own farms and mines and developed in their factories, and they are buying from us the raw resources; a happy condition indeed for a country to be in.

From Great Britain we find our imports growing rapidly, and multiplying largely in the way of fibres and textiles. I hope hon. members opposite take some satisfaction from the trade returns in this regard. The multiplication of our imports of fibres and textiles since this government came into operation is something that challenges the attention of every Canadian who loves his own country first. Some forty million dollars' worth of woollens and woollen yarns came in last year, of which over eighty per cent could have been made in this Dominion with the machinery, and the plants already in exist-

ence here and by the workmen already trained in their manufacture.

Looking at our trade returns again, I notice that we still expand our binder twine importations, some 53,900,000 pounds, last year. We expand as well our importations of bituminous coal. This is what I call particularly to the attention of the hon. member for Pictou, the Minister of Militia and Defence.

Mr. MACDONALD (Pictou): National Defence.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The Minister of National Defence. Here is something, perhaps, for more national defence. It will be recalled that in order to excite the hopes and enthusiasm of his compatriots in Nova Scotia in the election of 1921 the hon. gentleman solemnly bound himself to move in this House a resolution for the increase of the duties on this bituminous coal, and he deplored the fact that this Dominion, and particularly Ontario and Quebec, were practically living off Nova Scotia, poor old Nova Scotia, and were not compelled to pay enough for the privilege of importing American coal—and the House is still waiting for the resolution. I heard the hon. member for Cape Breton North (Mr. Kelly) say that the coal industry in his province of Nova Scotia was in a state of chaos. Hon. members will be surprised at this statement. Does not the hon. member recall that to secure his election to this House his confrere from Nova Scotia, the Minister of National Defence, went upon his platform and told the people of his county that the coal industry was in the best condition it had been in for years, due to the fostering care of the government of which he was a member? I happen to have brought his speech with me, for another purpose, but I may just as well use it for this purpose.

Mr. MACDONALD: Do not take the report that appeared in the newspapers.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I am reading a stenographic report, and I would be just as happy if the hon. minister contradicted it as if he affirmed it.

Mr. MACDONALD (Pictou): I will deal with the promises of my hon. friend in Cape Breton North election before the debate is closed.

Mr. MEIGHEN: My hon. friend does not seem anxious to hear his own speech. The stenographic report says:

This business of buying coal from the United States has been stopped. The St. Lawrence markets have been restored. So far as our coal and steel industries are concerned, the year 1923 will have been one of the greatest years in this country.