

I do not need to speak of the effect of the tariff on industry or on the price of goods. It has been argued very often by hon. members that a tariff raises the price of goods. The hon. member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Howard) who sits on the other side of the House, has answered that question very satisfactorily and shown that a tariff does not necessarily advance the price of the goods. The hon. gentleman gave us instances of articles produced in this country, the prices of which were no more than the prices of similar articles in a country where they had 35 per cent protection against them.

I could refer to utterances of many other hon. members in this House, but I will not take the time. Let us throw aside the theories of Cobden and Cartwright; they do not apply to Canada to-day. Cobden's theories might have been all right a hundred years ago in England, but this is not England a hundred years ago, this is the Canada of to-day. Cartwright's theories were not accepted in this country in his day. Let us get down to business and consider the practical facts and conditions as they at present exist in Canada. I suggest that if hon. members would study men like W. R. Morson and other up-to-date authorities on the subject, they would receive greater assistance. I noticed that the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Brown) gave us the latest statistics on cattle. Indeed I do not know whether he succeeded in persuading the hon. member for East Algoma (Mr. Nicholson) that the Hamiltonians were not as big beef eaters as they were pictured to be. The Hamilton people may have come from the Tower of London and perhaps they were good beef eaters. But the point he was making was, how many pounds of beef a day these people were consuming. The question was in regard to the exportation of beef. If we had in our country the people who were driven out of Canada by bad fiscal policy, the amount of beef that went to England from Canada last year would not need to be exported at all. In going over the figures the hon. member made special mention of the fact that in the statistics he was dealing with there were no importation of asses. He made rather a striking remark in regard to that. I do not know what his idea was in drawing attention to it, in particular but upon looking up the statistics of the breeding of live stock in Canada I find there is no record of any asses being bred in Canada; so honours are even.

Mr. BROWN: The statistics I gave were correct.

Mr. BAKER: Quite right, there were no asses imported and also none bred here. Referring to page 1925 of the same book I find that in Saskatchewan they had practically all the mules in Canada—9073 mules—but there are practically none in the other provinces. I am only dealing with agricultural statistics, and we are talking about quadrupeds now.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make special mention of the hon. members representing constituencies in the province of Quebec. I speak truly and to the best of my knowledge that twenty or thirty of the hon. members representing constituencies in the province of Quebec are not really representing the spirit of the people of Quebec, having reference to the politics of the two different parties in this House. I appeal to hon. gentlemen and I say that they do know that the spirit of the province of Quebec is protectionist all the way through. Having reference to the magnificent protectionist policy consistently pursued from beginning to end by their able provincial government, I appeal to hon. members from that province and I say to them, "You have the power to save the situation that now exists in Canada." I appeal to the members from Quebec to consider this matter seriously; on the question of their duty to their country and the loyalty they have always shown to their country, with the permission of the Speaker they might ask the privilege of crossing the floor of the House, on the ground that they want to divorce themselves from the party who do not believe in protection. I would like to see a real page made in history; I would like to see twenty members from Quebec cross the floor on the question of a trade policy which makes for the welfare of the Dominion of Canada. By so doing you guard your industries because under present conditions you never know when your industries are going to be hurt.

Let me say from my seat in the House one word to the people of Canada. I suggest that they should take more interest in the affairs of their country and vote for the adoption of a fiscal policy which means live and let live for all parts of Canada. I should like to ask the people of Canada to consider the recent election and the results of the returns sent in by returning officers, which show that tens of thousands of people in Canada did not vote at all. It is too bad; they should vote. It is almost a question whether we should not have compulsory voting as they have it in Australia. I appeal to the people to send only to this parliament, as indeed they