

margarine, but to protect its manufacture in Canada. He proposed to place a duty on the imported article such as would make it profitable to establish the industry in this country, and even informed the House that a company with large capital was to be established in Montreal for the manufacture of the article. The Minister of Inland Revenue had also a Bill imposing duties on that article. I believe I was myself the first to suggest that it would be impossible, if oleomargarine were allowed to be manufactured in the Dominion, to provide that it should not go into consumption here, and that in any case such an article would compete abroad with our home made butter. The idea was opposed by hon. gentlemen opposite, and by some hon. members on this side of the House. Finally, on the motion of the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Paterson), who was the first to place the matter in shape for the House to act upon it, the House adopted the plan of prohibiting the importation of oleomargarine, and the Minister's Bill was amended accordingly, and became a prohibitive Bill. As to the figures of the *Globe*, quoted by the hon. member who last addressed the House, I cannot pretend at the moment to say how far the *Globe* may have miscalculated in quoting figures from the public documents. It could certainly have no object in intentionally misrepresenting them, for so many members had copies of the document, and would be gratified to find a flaw in the *Globe's* figures. But there is a general understanding now that the prohibition of oleomargarine is an absolute necessity to the preservation of our butter market in Canada. Whether the prohibition of the importation of butter is such a necessity, there is room for argument; but it does not become hon. gentlemen opposite to urge that there would be anything unfair in such prohibition. The farming class have been taxed for a long time for the support of the manufacturing class, and we would only be asking that protection be extended all round, as was promised when the National Policy was originally introduced. Whether this mode of protection is necessary it is not now the time to consider; but the Minister should give special attention to the task of prohibiting the introduction of oleomargarine into the country. There can be no doubt, that in order to prevent such an importation, much attention will be required, for the two articles are very similar, and nothing short of a chemical or microscopical test will decide the matter.

Mr. BOWELL. Some chemists say that will not detect.

Mr. CASEY. I think that a microscopical test is a pretty safe one. At all events, it would not be difficult to have experts appointed. If every sample of supposed oleomargarine is to be sent here to be tested, much trouble will be involved, and in practice it will not be done, the Customs officers passing it on their own responsibility, but if it was referred to some chemist or expert in butter in the town where the entry was attempted to be made, much time and trouble would be saved. It would be impossible, I suppose, to do as was done in some other trades, to have a butter expert appointed as a Customs officer at such places where butter was imported. That would, perhaps, be doing too much for the farmers, but I believe it will prove to be the only effective way of completely prohibiting the importation of oleomargarine. I hope the Minister will use his best efforts to secure the object we have in view.

Motion agreed to.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS IN THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.

Mr. DAWSON moved for :

Return of all reports of surveys and explorations made under the direction of the Geological Survey Office, within the past two years, in the Thunder Bay District to the westward of Port Arthur.

He said: Surveys have been going on for some years past to the westward of Port Arthur, under the direction of the

Geological Survey, but we have had no report as yet of what has been discovered in that interesting country. No doubt the Geological Survey sent very able officers and men of great experience there; but what avails all that when we have not received any report? I ask that a return be made of the reports of those gentlemen who were sent into that district. The Geological Survey have discouraged mining enterprises; they have told people who proposed to enter into such enterprises that they would be likely to lose money, and they warned them against the investment. Independent, however, of the survey, explorations have been made during the past few years by other persons, and they have been attended with marked success. To the south-west of Port Arthur and north of Lake Superior, gold mines of immense richness have been discovered. One is now being worked with a large force of men, and with stamps and all the necessary machinery. The same remark applies also to our silver region. Very valuable silver mines have been discovered there of late, not by our Geological Survey, but by other explorers and scientists who went in there on their own account. I may mention one instance. There was a gentleman came from Duluth who possessed a large amount of capital, and he was very much struck and pleased with the appearance of the country. He selected a location which had nothing in particular to recommend it more than any other part of the district, excepting that it had a few promising mineral lodes passing through it. He employed experts and scientific men, and they recommended him to go on with its development. He accordingly went on developing his mine, and expended \$150,000 upon it without its resulting in any return whatever. But such was his confidence in the experts that he continued at the work and at last he has his reward. Within the past three months they have taken out one million dollars' worth of silver from that mine. The place I refer to is the Beaver Mountain mine. Another and similar case was that of the Rabbit Mountain, which, after a little surface exploration, was about abandoned by our own people. A few Americans came in with skilled miners and they determined to sink a shaft. They did so, and in a short time passed through one hundred feet of solid silver and already they have \$400,000 of that metal on or near the surface. Some of our mining and geological experts have been there, but yet we have no report—nothing to show the world at large that such a place exists. And it is not silver alone that will be found there. There are immense operations in iron ore going on in Minnesota just across the boundary line, and last summer they exported from that region to a place called Two Harbors, on Lake Superior, 350,000 tons of iron ore. The iron bearing range of Minnesota undoubtedly passes into our side of the line a little to the north of the silver mines. There have been skilful young men from the Geological Survey there exploring, and they were highly impressed with the value of the country; and yet in three years we have not before this House a single word to show what that country is. It is for this reason that I move for these papers, and I hope they will be brought down.

Motion agreed to.

TRACADIE HARBOR, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. WELSH moved for :

Copies of all correspondence, departmental orders, reports and other papers relating to Tracadie harbor, Prince Edward Island.

He said: I think this is a matter which has been under the consideration of the Government for some years past, but I have not heard whether they decided to take any action in regard to it. It is very important for the residents of that place that some action should be taken. At one time it was one of the finest harbors on the north side of