

American price plus the Canadian duty, is greater in Annapolis valley than in New York state. If any person is interested in pursuing this subject in detail he will find it dealt with at pages 108 to 111 of a recent publication entitled *The Maritime Provinces since Confederation*, published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Nova Scotia farmer has to pay substantially more than his American competitor for power sprayers, disc harrows, mowing machines, horse rakes, potato diggers, potato planters, manure spreaders, lime sowers, grain and fertilizer drills, spring tooth harrows, tractors, trucks, some spraying materials, and almost all other farm materials such as middlings, bran, cornmeal, coal oil, gasoline, tires, not to mention motor cars and equipment. It is obvious that if you increase the customs tariff on these articles, which I understand is the proposal of hon. gentlemen opposite, you are going to increase the cost of production to the apple producers in the Annapolis, Cornwallis, Gaspereau and Avon valleys of Nova Scotia. If you go to any farmer in those districts and ask him why he is not doing as well as he did before the war, he will tell you that the cost of production has gone up disproportionately to the price he is receiving for his products. It is obvious that any policy which results in a general increase in that cost of production, any policy which will result in increasing the spread between his costs and the costs of his New York state competitor, is not going to make conditions any better in the Annapolis valley. As a matter of fact it will make conditions very much worse, and you will have two persons leaving the locality for the United States where you have one at the present time. I think that constituency is fairly representative of a great many rural constituencies in Canada. Higher tariffs as a cure for conditions in a constituency such as that, so far as emigration is concerned, would be a joke, or perhaps I should say, a tragedy.

As a matter of fact we do not have to depend upon our reasoning or upon logic to a proper conclusion as to what effect a higher tariff would have upon emigration. If there was one period in the history of Canada when conditions should have been ideal so far as the emigration problem is concerned, according to the arguments of hon. gentlemen opposite it was the period between 1879, when the national policy came into force, and 1896, when the Conservative party went out of power. There you had a government favourable to the protection of home industry, a government whose avowed policy was to furnish jobs for Canadian workmen. You had no inquisitive consumers' league to cope with,

no fussy tariff board. If the manufacturer wanted protection he simply went to the Finance minister and got what he desired. What was the result? If the reasoning of hon. gentlemen opposite is valid and sound, surely we would expect that there would be practically no emigration from Canada during that period, and yet the records show that there was no period in the history of Canada, before or since, when emigration was as great as during that very period.

My hon. friends opposite are talking against the government because, they contend, its policy is leading to emigration. I tell them their talk is as nothing compared with what was said by Sir Richard Cartwright and his colleagues in the early nineties after the census of 1891. Sir Richard Cartwright placed facts before the House of Commons to show that in the decade between 1881 and 1891 there was an exodus from the Dominion amounting to 1,460,000 persons, or 146,000 a year for ten years on end. That was the condition during that halcyon period. Why, in the province of Nova Scotia the population, which according to the census returns was 440,000 in 1881, had increased to only 450,000 in 1891. But it is a matter of history that the census of 1891 was conducted fraudulently and showed tens of thousands more people in the province than were actually there. If anyone wishes to check this I would refer him to the speech made by Sir Frederick Borden, then the member for King's County, in the House of Commons on June 12, 1894, in which he shows that whole families were transplanted from the Cornwallis and Annapolis valleys to the New England states, and yet they were shown in the census returns as still living in the province. As a matter of fact our population was stationary at that time, notwithstanding a high birth rate and considerable immigration. It was stationary in New Brunswick—even the census did not show an increase. It was stationary in Prince Edward Island—even the census did not show an increase. In the book to which I have referred, issued recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, it is said that the total emigration from the maritime provinces between 1881 and 1891 exceeded 103,000 and between 1891 and 1901 it exceeded 111,000. It was not until after 1901, when the results of the Laurier policies began to be felt, that the emigration from the maritime provinces was substantially reduced.

It is for these reasons, reasons that I might call historical as well as mathematical, that I say the cure-all prescribed by hon. gentlemen opposite would in fact be no cure at all. If we had applied what I understand to be the