

to my right hon. friend as he is the head of the great Swedish Match Company which operates in Poland Peru, Greece, Ecuador, Esthonia and many other countries of the world. That gentleman is reported as follows:

I do not know how to commence an expression of my business philosophy in any simpler fashion than to say that the world is swiftly casting off its provincial habit of mind. Nations will remain nations, of course, but the minds of men are broadening to an international horizon. In this machine age we produce so enormously, so rapidly, that home markets—national markets—are not enough. We must go abroad to sell a large part of our production. Tell me, to what nation this does not apply? To all, we know.

Well then, how is business gained? Do we win customers by blows and abuse or by smiles and little acts of friendship and service? The question is absurd, of course. Yet nations must act precisely as individuals act if they are to achieve proportionate results.

I may be pardoned, I trust, for referring to your tariff. I doubt if America has done anything in the past twenty years to stir up more ill feeling and resentment abroad—all over the world—than she has done by putting up this high tariff wall over which European business can hardly climb. From my viewpoint, seeing the business world as a whole, knowing the feeling abroad and informed of the reprisals that are in the making, I say that your tariff is a very dangerous piece of legislation for the good of your business. You are inviting costly trade wars.

Upon that occasion he was addressing himself to the American people.

Now I come to the Canadian agricultural situation. Last July and previous to the election the right hon. gentleman who leads the Conservative party stated that if that party were put into power he immediately would put into effect a high protective tariff by which the farmers of this country would be benefited by increased prices for their wheat and for their dairy produce. He was going to blast his way into the markets of the world. In order to keep the records straight perhaps I had better read his exact words:

Listen, you agriculturists from the west and all the other parts of Canada, you have been taught to mock at tariffs and applaud free trade. Tell me, when did free trade fight for you? Tell me, when did free trade fight for you? You say tariffs are only for the manufacturers. I will make them fight for you as well. I will use them to blast a way into the markets that have been closed to you.

What has been the result of this blasting? As a result of the iniquitous tariff legislation enacted last September, whereby the ordinary flow of trade has been hampered, the western farmer of to-day is selling his wheat for one-half the price he received last July. He sells his

[Mr. McPhee.]

eggs at the rate of two dozens for twenty-five cents, butter fat is sold at ten to twelve cents per pound less than it was last July. The price of wheat is below the cost of production and the farmer in western Canada cannot exist under the present protective tariff. The farmer is a primary producer and his products by any stretch of the imagination cannot be consumed in Canada. He must depend upon the markets of the world. If those markets are closed to him because of high protection there must be stagnation such as we in western Canada are experiencing. Reading an Associated Press despatch after the visit of my hon. friend the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Ryckman), I was amused to find he had stated that in western Canada he had found a strong turning toward the principle of protection. With whom did my hon. friend consult?

Mr. RYCKMAN: The best people out there.

Mr. VALLANCE: The gophers.

Mr. MCPHEE: My hon. friend from South Battleford (Mr. Vallance) says it must have been the gophers. Well, for the benefit of those hon. gentlemen from the east who might not be particularly acquainted with the little animal, I may say that in many respects there is similarity between a gopher and a good Tory. The gopher is a sleek little animal and he pilfers the farmers' grain. In the day of his greatest pilfering he develops a paunch and I would say that gopherism and Toryism might be synonymous terms. They are synonymous because both are pests and humbugs. As a matter of fact if I were asked to choose between the gopher and the Tory I believe I would prefer the gopher because its depredations would be by instinct and not by design.

Having turned down the trade with Great Britain, the European countries and the United States, my right hon. friend the leader of the government endeavoured to negotiate with China a sale of Canadian wheat. I remember very well his address delivered in the city of Regina on December 30 last. Two weeks previously the speech had been heralded by the Tory newspapers of western Canada. We were told that he would deliver this great message of deliverance. It happened that around that time there was a by-election in the district of Estevan in the province of Saskatchewan, and the heralded visit of the right hon. gentleman to western Canada was most timely. The present leader of the government made his speech and I happened to