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MR. McINERNEY'S SPEECH.

Delivered in the House of Commons on the Budget.

(Conclusion.)

In the different branches of the subject I have taken I have endeavoured to show that there is much to be said to the credit of the conservative party and much against the administration of the Liberal party on those very subjects. I come now to a test which, I think, is absolutely correct as to the condition of the people of this country financially during those several years. I allude to the savings of the people. From 1874 to 1878, the savings of the people, as shown by the savings bank returns, decreased \$353,057, or over 4 1/2 per cent. From 1890 to 1895 the savings increased \$45,000,000, or over 22 per cent. I think that is a gratifying statement and a conclusive proof that from 1890 to 1895, the people of this country have, from their avocations amassed a large sum of money and put it to their credit in the banks far beyond what they did from 1874 to 1878.

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) Will the hon. gentleman excuse me if I ask a question. Do I understand him to say that from 1890 to 1895, the deposits in the savings banks showed an increase of \$45,000,000?

Mr. McInerney. Yes; total savings in banks.

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) Is the hon. gentleman sure of that?

Mr. McInerney. These are the figures that I have, and they show an increase of 22 per cent. The next thing I turn my attention to is the failures that occurred from 1874 to 1878, and from 1890 to 1895. Now, in 1874, the failures, that occurred in Canada, according to Dun, Wiman, & Co., represented a total of \$7,796,000. In 1878 the failures amounted to \$23,908,000 or an increase in that time of 310 per cent. In 1890—the failures amounted to \$18,000,000, in 1894 they were \$17,600,000, and in 1895 they had fallen to \$18,800,000, a decrease of 11 per cent. So that, while the failures among the business men of Canada from 1874 to 1878 had increased 310 per cent, from 1890 to 1895 they decreased by 11 per cent. I have here a general comparison of these two periods which, if it would not weary the House, I would like to read:

Imports fell.....	\$18,000,000
Duty collected decreased.....	1,400,000
Per cent of duty rose, 4 p. c.	
Debt increased.....	40,000,000
Net interest on public debt increased.....	1,500,000
1889-94.	
Exports rose.....	\$28,000,000
Imports rose.....	28,000,000
Duty collected decreased.....	4,500,000
Per cent of duty fell, 4 1/2 p. c.	
Debt increased.....	10,000,000
Net interest on public debt increased.....	100,000

Imports fell.....	18,000,000
Duty collected decreased.....	1,400,000
Per cent of duty rose, 4 p. c.	
Debt increased.....	40,000,000
Net interest on public debt increased.....	1,500,000
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Debt increased.....	10,000,000
Net interest on public debt increased.....	100,000

I think that that is a statement that should be of some interest to the people of this country, if they would only take the trouble to study it. Now I come to the customs duties levied in these two periods. In 1888-89, the customs duties levied amounted to \$5 per head, while in 1893-94, they were \$3.82 per head. The percentage of imports dutiable and free in 1888-89 was 21.65 per cent., and in 1893-94, 17.13 per cent. The duties collected in 1889 amounted to \$23,726,794, while in 1894 they had fallen to \$19,119,000. Now Sir, there is another subject to which I would like to call the attention of the House—the banking returns during these periods. The following are the figures for the Cartwright period, as it is called:—

Note circulation.....	\$ 27,904,000
Total deposit.....	77,113,000
Discount to people.....	131,680,000
Assets.....	187,921,000

Note circulation.....	\$ 20,475,000
Total deposit.....	70,856,000
Discount to people.....	113,485,000
Assets.....	175,450,000

When the circulation and discounts decline, denoting shrinkage of commerce; when the deposits fall off, showing loss of resources, and the bank assets diminish, no further comment is required to prove the embargo which the country's policy at that period placed against prosperity. If we take the same facts for the past five years, the substantial success of the present policy is illustrated.

Note circulation.....	\$ 32,207,000
Total deposits.....	134,650,000
Discounts to people.....	140,968,000
Assets.....	253,789,000

Note circulation.....	\$ 33,811,000
Total deposits.....	174,776,000
Discounts to people.....	905,623,000
Assets.....	302,696,000

So that the banking returns of the country during these periods teach a very important lesson. Now, with regard to the trade of the country, perhaps the best barometer of that trade is the freight traffic.

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) Would the hon. gentleman excuse me. Before he passes to that, I would like to find out whether I understood him aright as to a matter he touched upon previously. Either I misunderstood him or I have misread the public accounts, and I wish to understand the matter.

Mr. McInerney. You refer to the figures to which you called my attention before. I must say, Mr. Speaker, that when I read it, it seemed to be a large figure. But I took it from an authentic source.

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) The hon. gentleman said that the increased deposits in the savings banks was \$45,000,000.

Mr. McInerney. Yes; total savings. Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) If the hon. gentleman will consult public accounts he will see that there is not \$45,000,000 since 1867.

Mr. McInerney. The hon. gentleman may state that and—

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) If the hon. gentleman will take up the public accounts he will see that the total figure for last year is \$3,400,000.

Mr. McInerney. The hon. gentleman may be correct, but I—

Mr. Foster. What my hon. friend means, no doubt, is the total in the savings banks of the country.

Mr. Davies (P. E. I.) All the banks?

Mr. McInerney. I said all the savings of the people in the different banks. I know I have taken the statement from an authentic source. It may be that I am wrong. I do not vouch for the correctness of all these figures. But I say that until the hon. gentleman quotes me something that shows I am wrong I will stick to the figures I have given.

I was proceeding, Mr. Speaker, to deal with the freight carriage. I was going to say that railway corporations do not carry freight for fun, and the extent of traffic is a pretty good indication of the extent of internal trade. In 1875, the first year of which we have a record the railways carried 5,670,836 tons of freight. In 1878 that had increased to 7,883,472 tons. In

1893 the figures had rolled up to the enormous quantity of almost 23,000,000 tons carried by the railways of Canada. Now, I wish to refer to the foreign trade. In 1878 our foreign trade was \$173,000,000, and in 1894 it had increased to \$241,000,000.

FREIGHT CARRIED BY RAILWAYS	
	Tons
1878.....	7,883,472
1893.....	23,003,599

BANK DISCOUNTS.	
	\$
1878.....	\$119,682,659
1893.....	199,773,000

TONNAGE SEAGOING AND INLAND VESSELS (EXCLUSIVE OF COASTING).	
	Tons.
1878.....	12,054,890
1893.....	18,539,534

COASTING TRADE.	
	Tons.
1878.....	11,047,661
1893.....	24,569,123

Now, look at the growth of the postal business of the country. In 1878 there were 53,500,000 letters carried, and in 1893 there were 137,000,000 carried. The National Policy has, therefore, proved a most effective destroyer of hopes of our Liberal friends. I now come to the total trade of the country during the two periods. In 1874 it amounted to \$217,000,000. In 1878 it fell to \$173,000,000, or a decrease of \$44,000,000. In 1895 our total trade had gone up to the large sum of \$340,000,000, or an increase during the Conservative regime of \$97,000,000 as against a decrease of \$44,000,000 during the regime of our hon. friends opposite. I will now give you a tabulated statement showing the difference in our total trade between the five years of our Liberal friends, and the last five years under protection:

LIBERAL FIVE YEARS.	
1874.....	\$217,565,510
1875.....	200,957,262
1876.....	174,166,781
1877.....	175,203,355
1878.....	172,405,454

LAST FIVE YEARS, UNDER PROTECTION.	
1890.....	\$218,608,490
1891.....	218,384,934
1892.....	241,369,443
1893.....	247,636,820
1894.....	241,000,000

In 1894 Canada shipped to Great Britain from the port of Montreal alone 89,604 cattle and 130,663 sheep, against 15,963 cattle and 31,841 sheep in 1878. Cheese shipments increased from 38,054,294 pounds to 133,946,365 pounds; the value of hog meats exported rose from \$998,406 to \$2,052,471; the value of apple exports to Great Britain increased from \$168,000 to \$2,247,482. Now I come to the export of agricultural products from the country. The exports of cheese, bacon, hams, apples, wheat and flour, horses, sheep and cattle, amounted, in 1890, to \$23,071,000 in value, and in 1895, to \$36,387,000. In pork, the imports decreased from 1889 to 1893. Sir, there is no greater lesson of the beneficial effects of the National Policy as regards the farmer than is to be found in the Trade Returns regarding the exports and imports of pork in the different periods. In 1889 we imported into Canada the enormous amount of 27,000,000 pounds of pork; in 1893 that had fallen to 4,000,000 pounds; and in 1895 to less than 4,000,000 pounds. Well Sir, while our exports of pork only amounted to 4,000,000 pounds in 1893, it had grown to over 20,000,000 pounds. That shows conclusively that putting a duty on American pork brought into Canada, resulted in shutting out 23,000,000 pounds of American pork that formerly came in. The Canadian farmers have more than raised the difference between the two figures, because the exports of pork, after providing for the wants of the country, so far as they could, rose from 4,000,000 pounds in 1889 to over 20,000,000 pounds in 1893. I may say, in addition, that the exports of cattle in 1875 amounted to \$1,500,000 in value, and in 1895 the cattle exported amounted to the enormous sum of \$7,120,000. Now, I have here a statement which I think my hon. friends opposite will not say is taken from a very friendly source, it is taken from a pamphlet published by the Department of Agriculture in the United States, called "The World's Markets for American Products," and shows the agricultural production in Canada for the years indicated. The pamphlet was issued at Washington by the Government printing office in 1895, and from that pamphlet I take the figures I am now about to read to the House. The figures refer to the agricultural products of Canada for the different years indicated. The hon. member for Huron (Mr. McMillan) said there was a falling off in everything produced by the farmers, that land values had decreased, that the products of the farmer had decreased, not only in value, but in volume, that all along the line, so far as the farmer was concerned, the National policy had been a curse and a blight to him. Now, Sir, let us see how

the declaration of the hon. gentleman accords with the figures given by this high and independent authority I now cite. The amount of wheat raised in Canada in 1880 was 32 million bushels; in 1891 it had risen to over 60 million bushels.

Mr. Mulock. What had the National Policy to do with that?

Mr. McInerney. I am not saying the National Policy had anything particularly to do with that, but I am answering the statement of the hon. member for Huron that the value of the products of the farmers of Canada had decreased under the National Policy. These figures show that the wheat product of Canada had increased from 1880 to 1891, had more than doubled in that period. Of barley, we raised 15 million bushels in 1880, and over 21 1/2 millions in 1891. Of oats, we raised 70 million bushels in 1880, and 117,700,000 bushels in 1891. I have here figures, to about the same effect, of different other products grown in Canada, showing that from 1880 to 1891 the products of the farmers of Canada had materially increased. Sir, in face of these facts, I cannot understand how it is possible that a man engaged in agriculture, a man as intelligent as my hon. friend from Huron appears to be, and undoubtedly is, with such figures before him, can stand on a platform, or in an intelligent assembly like this, and make such declarations as he made to us this evening. Now, Sir, from that book I also take a statement with regard to the ratio of cattle owned by the farmers of Canada, as compared with those in the United States of America. It must be admitted that the United States is a rich country, it has had a great start ahead of us, it has had protection for a much longer time, and has an immense population. In view of these facts it will be something wonderful to find that the farmers of Canada, per head, possess almost as many cattle and horses as the farmers of the United States, the great market of which hon. gentlemen opposite are continually boasting, and to which they ask us, from time to time to turn our eyes. Why, Sir, Canada is one of the few countries, as regards the ratio of live stock to population, that do not present a strikingly unfavourable contrast to the United States of America. The following table shows the number of farm animals to every one thousand inhabitants in the United States, on June 1st, 1890, and in Canada, on April 6th, 1891:—

Animal.	Canada.	U. S.
Horses.....	298	239
Milk cows.....	378	264
Other neat cattle.....	462	557
Sheep.....	520	574
Swine.....	352	916

I also find that the number of farm animals in the Dominion of Canada, according to the census of 1891, were: Horses, 1,441,037; working oxen, 127,987; milk cows, 1,829,375; other neat cattle, 2,103,300; sheep, 3,513,977; swine 1,702,785. These figures, taken from this authoritative source, show that there has been an increase in the number of swine of 495,166 in the past decade; in the number of horses, 381,679; in the number of milk cows, 233,575; and in other neat cattle, 396,912. Yet, Sir, there are hon. gentlemen engaged in the farming industry in Canada, men who have seats in this House, who will stand up, and, in the face of these figures, which clearly show the prosperity of Canada, will declare against the National Policy, and say that it is responsible for the falling off in values and in volume of the farm products of Canada. Now, there is another thing to which I wish to draw the attention of the House, and that is with regard to the coal trade. During the fifteen years that protection has been in operation in Canada, the sales of Nova Scotia coal aggregated 21,973,399 tons, which was over five million tons more than the total sales of the whole previous ninety five years. These figures are taken from a report of the Nova Scotia Department of Mines for 1894, at page 62. During the most vaunted period of reciprocity with the United States, which hon. gentlemen opposite are always asking us to advert to, Nova Scotia coal sales increased, it is true, from 217,416 to 558,528 tons, an increase of 341,112 tons for the whole thirteen years of the reciprocity period: while in one year after the adoption of protection that increase jumped from 688,000 tons to 954,000 tons, and has steadily increased until now 2,000,000 tons a year are raised in that country. So that whatever may be said of reciprocity, this can truly be said of protection, it has enhanced to a very large extent the volume of coal taken out of the coal mines of Nova Scotia.

There are other subjects to which I intended to advert this evening but it is get-

ting very late. I intended to call attention to the argument made by hon. gentlemen opposite in regard to the census. Hon. gentlemen say: you may find figures to tell you the trade of the country has increased in this line and in that line but we tell you that the census returns of 1891 prove conclusively that the population of Canada did not increase in a ratio as it should have increased in that time. Well, I think a fitting answer to any such argument is an answer taken from the mouths of those very hon. gentlemen themselves. These hon. gentlemen in 1881 claimed that the census then taken was not a fair census, that it was a census which added a number of people to the population of Canada for which we should not have credit, but if we proceed on the basis of the census of 1881 we have added a much larger number of people than Canada was entitled to, and it cannot fairly be taken by them now as the basis of comparison with the census of 1891, which hon. gentlemen did not attack with respect to the population having been improperly increased.

Sir Richard Cartwright. We did.

Mr. McInerney. With respect to the population?

Sir Richard Cartwright. Certainly. If the hon. gentlemen will look at the statements made by the hon. member for Queens, he will see it was attacked on very serious grounds indeed.

Mr. McInerney. Hon. gentlemen, no doubt did in one or two localities raise the question. I have understood, however, ever since I came here and from my reading before I came here, that the principal point of attack by hon. gentlemen on the census has been the industries reported and not the population of the country. I never knew before that hon. gentlemen had attacked the census of 1891 with respect to the population. But if the hon. gentleman says it has been done, I am prepared to take his word for it. Whatever may be said of any attack on the census of 1891, I have the words of the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) as to what he said about the census of 1881. The hon. gentleman said:—

Now, I want to call the attention of the House to this. During the taking of the preceding census, we, from this side, called attention to the manifestly fraudulent intention with which it was taken. The result of that census has been that we have paid \$500,000 for a document as to which we do not know this, that it does not contain one single statement that can be relied upon; that in the very first statement, the most important of all, the statement of the number of people who are now in the Dominion of Canada, that census had been deliberately and fraudulently falsified, and falsified for a purpose. The hon. gentleman further stated:—

But, whatever may have been the object, whatever may have been the purpose, the fact remains that we have a census that cost us \$500,000, if not more, and of that census no man who takes the trouble to analyze it, to scrutinize its tables, can affirm with certainty any proposition except that in the most important part of all, it exaggerates by thousands of people the number of persons supposed to be resident in Canada. Not only did my hon. friend say that, but an hon. gentleman who stood high in this House as an authority on that question, and in fact on every subject, Mr. Blake, made similar statements. He said, alluding to the census of 1881:—

In some cases they have counted every person who belonged to a house, even though that person had been for a very long time resident in foreign parts, unless the head of the household would say he was quite sure the person was not coming back. In other instances, men who had been absent eight, fifteen or twenty years, have as I am informed by persons in the locality who were familiar with the circumstances, been counted. Again, Mr. Blake said:—

It is entirely uncertain, then, under the circumstances, what our population numbers. Nobody can tell by this mode of taking the census the actual number of our Canadian population. There were other opinions expressed by hon. gentlemen high in authority on the Liberal side of the House which I might quote to bear out that criticism of the census of 1881 uttered by hon. gentlemen opposite. But I turn from that criticism which I think is on a par with the criticism of the census of 1891, to the statement of the number of industrial establishments in Canada and their increase from 1881 to 1891, according to the census. I find follows:—

INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CANADA 1881 AND 1891.	
	1881
No.	\$
Number of establishments.....	49,923
Capital invested.....	165,302,623
Number of employees.....	254,955
Wages paid.....	39,425,002
Cost of raw material.....	179,918,938
Value of products.....	309,876,968

That would be a sufficient answer to any hon. gentleman who asks the question, have the industrial establishments of Canada increased during the decade from 1881 to 1891?

Mr. McDonald (Huron). Do you believe the correctness of those figures?

Mr. McInerney. I believe they are reasonably correct. I do not state that they are specifically correct, and correct in each and every instance; but I say the census of 1891 was taken on a more proper basis than that in 1881, and in that I agree with hon. gentlemen opposite. But I claim that there is no higher authority to which we can go than an authority which has been prepared and paid for out of the earnings of the people of Canada and the work carried on under the directions of public officers.

I wish to say a word or two about the fisheries. I come from a county in which the fishing interest is one of the most important. My county has an extensive line of coast, and it is very important that not only the attention of the Department of Fisheries, but the attention of the whole Government should be turned to that very important branch of industry; and before I advert to any figures I wish to say this, that so far as the fishermen are concerned, as well as the farmers, they should lift up both hands in praise of the National Policy of Canada. The fisherman's rope, hooks lines and everything that goes into consumption in his trade is free of duty. So the fisherman is well treated by the protective tariff as we have it at the present time. The fisheries of British North America are among the most extensive and important fisheries in the world. They produce a value yearly of over \$30,000,000 and they engage a population of about 110,000 people. In 1893, the total reported value of the production of the deep sea fisheries of the Dominion of Canada was \$17,945,637, and of that quantity \$2,737,024 worth were fresh water fish. To that must be added the value, estimated at \$2,000,000 of the fish taken by Indians mainly in the rivers of British Columbia making a total of nearly \$23,000,000, from the fisheries for that year.

There is one other statement that I wish to make, and that is with regard to the wealth of the people of Canada. Gentlemen in opposition say, that this is a poor country, that the people here are poor, that in comparison with other countries they are ground down by taxes, and that they are in a deplorable state. Well Sir, the records, and statisticians of authority do not bear hon. gentlemen out in making such statements. I refer to one of the most eminent statisticians, Michael G. Mulhall, and he computes that the wealth of Canada is nearly \$5,000,000,000. He computes that the value of lands in Canada amounts to \$1,500,000,000, that houses and furniture amount to \$955,000,000, that railway and shipping amount to \$785,000,000, that cattle amount to \$490,000,000, and sundries to \$1,350,000,000. That is an average of \$980 to each inhabitant as compared with an average, says Mr. Mulhall, of \$1,050 for each inhabitant of the United States. Not a bad showing, Mr. Speaker, for Canada, after all these years of protection, and after all these years of desolation that hon. gentlemen in opposition have so often referred to. Now, Sir, I have been asked several times during the course of my remarks, as to whether I give all the credit, of the great increase in each line I have indicated, entirely to the National Policy. Sir there are conditions in the country, that are independent I suppose of any policy; but I claim that the National Policy is to be credited with a very large amount of the increase of the products of Canada, of the increase in the industrial establishments of Canada, and of the increase of the prosperity of Canada from 1878 to 1891.

(Continued on page 4.)

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