

# THE BRITISH PREFERENCE

A Master Stroke on the Part of the Laurier Government.

MADE CANADA PRE-EMINENT

In Heart of the Empire—Had Marvelous Effect on English Nation.

RESULTING TRADE GROWTH

The Bond Between Dominion and Mother Land Greatly Strengthened by This Policy.

The Liberal party deserves the full credit for the diligence, wisdom, and success with which it has labored for the building up of trade between Canada and Great Britain. The pre-eminence of Canada in the British Empire is due to a large extent, to the adoption of this wise policy. The preferential tariff in favor of British goods had a marvelous effect upon the hearts and minds of the English nation and did much towards making Canada better known than before.

This policy was the more appreciated because it was voluntary on the part of Canada, not the result of any bargaining, but the spontaneous granting of special advantages to our citizens of the Empire. Nevertheless it did help our own country financially, so that our trade with Great Britain went up by leaps and bounds, and it opened up a new field for co-operation and mutual help for all the territorial divisions of the British Empire.

The resulting development of goodwill and mutual respect is too well known to need any illustration or proof. It finds expression every day in business, literature, and inter-communication. Canada would not occupy a high position as she does, were it not for the wisdom that planned, and the energy that carried through, the preferential tariff policy, which has brought money to our shores, enlarged our trade, and made the necessities of life cheaper for our own people.

Some idea of the effect of this policy, and other features of our present administrative system, upon the magnitude and trend of our business dealings with other communities, may be gathered from the following statements concerning the last fiscal year of Conservative rule, and the fiscal year which recently closed.

1. Total trade of Canada, that is the aggregate value of all Canadian imports and exports for years named:
  - 1896 .....
  - 1898 .....
  - 1908 .....
2. Total trade with Great Britain, that is, the value of imports into Canada from Great Britain, and exports from Canada to Great Britain:
  - 1896 .....
  - 1898 .....
  - 1908 .....
3. Imports from Great Britain to Canada:
  - 1896 .....
  - 1898 .....
  - 1908 .....
4. Imports from United States to Canada:
  - 1896 .....
  - 1898 .....
  - 1908 .....

The foregoing figures are most convincing evidence of the effect of the preferential tariff in directing into our commerce with Great Britain a great deal of business that would have benefited the United States instead of our motherland if the old Conservative policy had been continued. The fact that the result has been very beneficial to Canada is strikingly shown in the increasing market that we have found in England for our surplus products, as shown in the following statement:

- Value of goods exported from Canada to Great Britain:
- 1896 .....
  - 1898 .....
  - 1908 .....

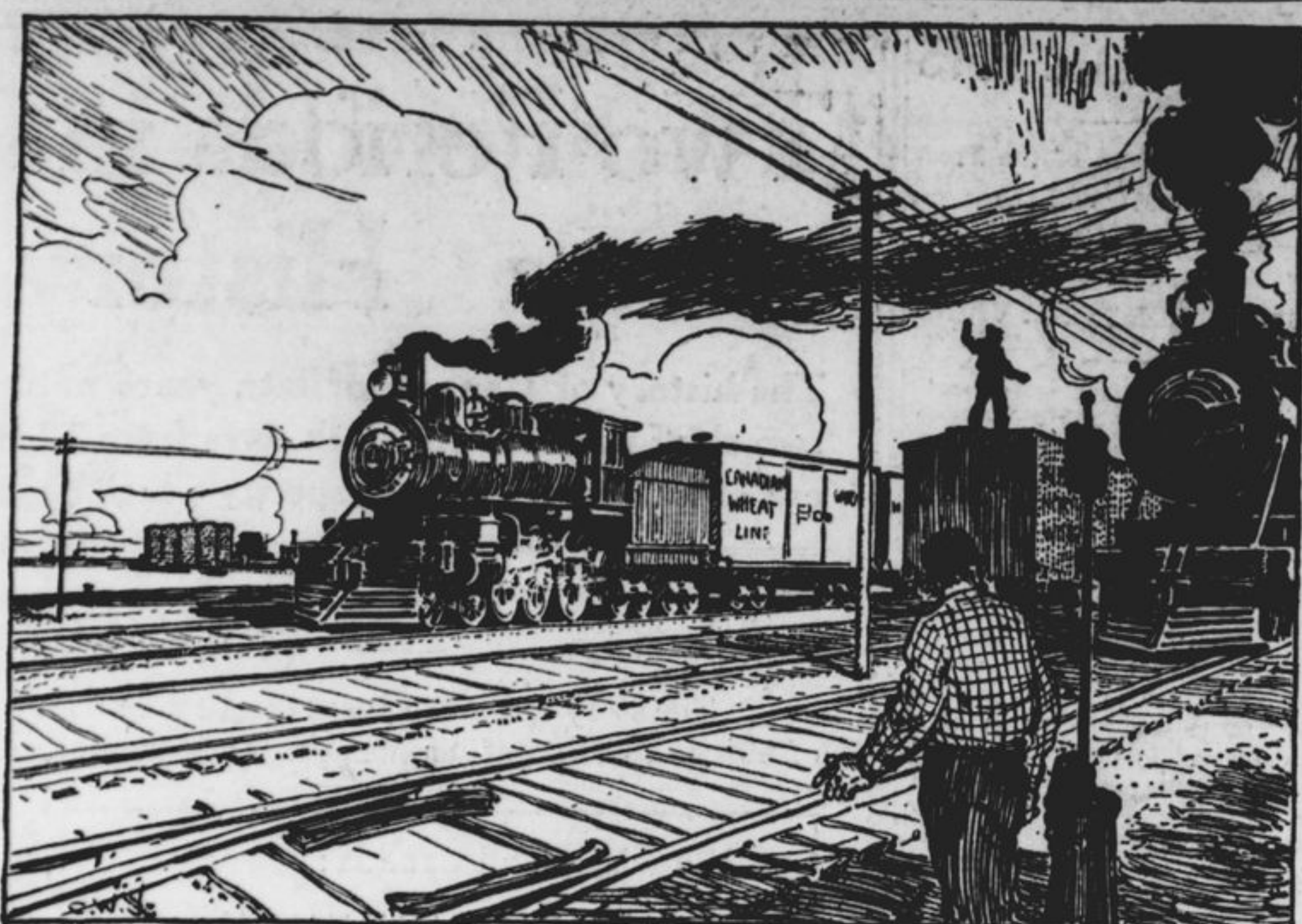
Originally the form of the preferential tariff was a reduction of one-eighth in the customs duties levied upon goods coming from Great Britain. Later on, the reduction was changed to one-quarter of the duty, and subsequently the preference was so adjusted as to be not only advantageous to Great Britain, but also adapted to encourage Canadian industry. On the whole, the preference now averages about one-third of the general customs rate.

The preferential tariff is only one of a number of reforms that have already been achieved by the Liberal party, such as reduction of postal rates, anti-dumping legislation, suppression of the opium traffic, civil service reform, extensions of provincial boundaries, cold storage facilities, and many other public benefits, all in line with the sound progressive principle of government for the good of all. The interests of the whole community, not special favors for any class, is the object for which the Liberal party exists and strives.

### THE CHARGES VARY.

Some Borden Supporters Want One Thing, Some Another.

Mr. Thomas Doherty, of Sarnia, is put forward by the Conservative press as a lifelong Liberal, who cannot support the Laurier Government because of its tariff policy. Those who are familiar with the usual line of attack on the Government will naturally suppose that Mr. Doherty is a free trader or a revenue tariff man, who is



THE CONQUERING OF WESTERN CANADA.—NO. 5.—THE COMMISSARIAT TRAINS. A series of eight cartoons drawn by Mr. C. W. Jefferys representing the conquest of Canada for civilization and the men who are engaged in it.

## THIS COUNTRY DEMANDS ONLY MODERATE TARIFF

Work of Making Harmony, Which Laurier Has Been Doing in Racial Matters, Is Being Accomplished by Fielding in Fiscal Affairs.

In his Massey Hall speech, after referring to the work done by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in making harmony between men of different races and creeds, Mr. Fielding said that in the revision of the tariff it was necessary to work along somewhat similar lines. In the meetings of the Tariff Commission he sometimes adopted the plan of presenting the case against each department as it appeared. He would ask the manufacturer to consider the case of the consumer. He would remind the farmer that his prosperity was bound

up with the success of manufacturing industry.

The Minister of Finance intimated that unless this question was very carefully handled there was danger of a sectional conflict between the manufacturing East and the agricultural West. It is true that the West has manufacturing industries, and will have more. But, on the whole, agriculture will be for many years the dominant industry of the country between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains, and the people will be disposed to chafe against any restriction of their liberty to buy their supplies where they please.



THE CONQUERING OF WESTERN CANADA.—NO. 6.—THE VOLUNTEERS. A series of eight cartoons drawn by Mr. C. W. Jefferys representing the conquest of Canada for civilization and the men who are engaged in it.

## THE LIBERAL TARIFF HELPED PROSPERITY

Tupper's Gloomy Predictions Did Not Come True—As Liberals Would Have Been Blamed for Adversity, They Should Get Full Credit for Prosperity.

In 1897, when the first Fielding tariff was submitted to Parliament, Sir Charles Tupper, then leader of the Conservative Opposition, said "the industries of this country are already paralyzed, while honorable members gloat over the destruction of Canadian industries. I was reading the wall, the sorrowful wall, of these industries in the Montreal Gazette, where one manufacturer after another declared that those industries were ruined, that their mills might close, and that they saw starting them in the face a return to the deplorable state of things that existed when the hon. gentleman who last addressed the House was in charge of the fiscal policy of this country. I say that a deeper wrong was never inflicted upon Canada. So far from rejoicing at it from a party standpoint, I deplore from the bottom of my heart the ruin that is going to be inflicted upon the best interests of Canada, and upon its great industries."

### THE TWO RECORDS.

Figures Show Striking Contrast Between Liberal and Conservative Rule.

"The Conservatives spent money when they did not have it to spend; we spent it when we did have it to spend." This sentence from Mr. Fielding's Massey Hall speech puts in the briefest and clearest possible form the difference between the financial record of the Laurier Administration and the Conservative Administrations which preceded it.

In the eleven years subsequent to 1896, the entire outlay of the Laurier Government—including the vast expenditures on great public works, as well as the cost of the ordinary services of the country—was met out of current revenue with the exception of a little over five million dollars. In the eleven years preceding 1896 the Conservatives, with a great deal less spent on permanent public improvements, were obliged to borrow sixty-two million dollars in order to make ends meet.

decreed from the bottom of his heart the ruin that he saw in the future. He must be now rejoicing at the dispelling of his fears. In five years of Liberal Government the capital invested in manufacturing industries was increased by \$287,000,000, the wages were increased by \$48,906,000, the value of products from \$225,393,000. In twelve years of Conservative administration the exports of manufactures were \$69,000,000. In twelve years of Liberal administration the exports of manufactures were \$214,000,000.

Suppose Sir Charles Tupper's fears had been realized. Does anyone suppose for one moment that the Liberal Government would not have been held responsible for every ruined industry, every deserted factory, every desolated workman's home in the land? Practically nothing else would have been talked of. The Liberal Government would have been smashed as the Mackenzie Government was smashed in 1878. Then is it fair that a Liberal Government shall bear the burden of adversity, and shall have no share in the credit for prosperity?

# Canada's Onward March

## Phenomenal Advance Under Laurier in All Lines of Industrial Enterprise

The figures which follow give in succinct form the story of Canada's progress, in the principal lines of industrial enterprise, under the Laurier Government. Where possible comparison has been made between 1896 and the latest year for which statistics are available. In some cases, as in manufacturing, it has been impossible to do this, as 1896 was not a "census year."

The whole story is one of amazing advancement and marvelous development under the most progressive Government that has ever held power in Canada.

EXPANSION OF COMMERCE	
Total trade, 1896 .....	\$217,000,000
Total trade, 1908 .....	\$598,000,000
Increase .....	\$381,000,000
Exports, Canadian products, 1896 .....	\$106,000,000
Exports, Canadian products, 1908 .....	\$247,000,000
Increase .....	\$141,000,000

The above are figures which speak. And they do not lie. They tell in a word of the wonderful expansion which has taken place in our trade with other countries in the twelve years the Laurier Government has been in power.

In 1896 the aggregate of our exports to and imports from other countries, exclusive of coin and bullion, was \$217,000,000.

In 1908 the aggregate was \$598,000,000. The increase in the twelve years was \$381,000,000. The increase in 1908 over the total trade of 1896 was \$164,000,000.

Taking our export trade alone the showing is equally satisfactory. The exports of Canadian products in 1896 were valued at \$106,000,000. The exports of like products in 1908 reached a value of \$247,000,000. The increase in this case was \$141,000,000.

GROWTH IN THE WEST	
Immigrants arriving in West and settling on farms in five years, 1891-95 .....	22,292
Immigrants arriving in West and settling on farms in five years, 1901-5 .....	128,800
Acres put in crop in 1895 by immigrants arriving in previous 5 years .....	403,139
Acres put in crop in 1906 by immigrants arriving in 5 years prior to that date .....	1,452,791

"Growth" is scarcely the word to describe the onward rush which has characterized the West of late years. Stagnation has given place to abounding progress. Despair has made way for compelling hope. It is really a new West that exists to-day. At the end of 1895 less than 23,000 immigrants, who had arrived during the previous five years, were settled on Western farms. In 1906 the number of immigrants so settled, who had arrived subsequent to 1900, was 128,800. In the addition to crop acreage resulting from immigrant labor the result is equally remarkable.

RAILWAYS KEEP PACE	
Mileage in operation, 1896 .....	16,270
Mileage in operation, 1907 .....	22,452
Passengers Carried, 1896 .....	14,810,000
Passengers Carried, 1907 .....	32,137,000
Tons Freight Moved, 1896 .....	24,288,000
Tons Freight Moved, 1907 .....	63,866,000

The mileage of Canadian railways in 1907 was about 40 per cent. in advance of that of 1896. The expansion in traffic was vastly greater, passenger travel having much more than doubled while the volume of freight was well nigh trebled.

MINES YIELD OF THEIR RICHNESS	
Value Output of Mines in 1901 .....	\$48,000,000
Output of same in 1907 .....	\$86,000,000

To the progressive policy pursued in the Yukon, the opening up of the Crow's Nest Pass region, and the wise course followed along other lines, is largely due the fact that Canada, as shown by the figures just given, is rapidly taking her place among the foremost producers of the world in the riches of the mine.

MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT	
Value of output of factories in 1901 .....	\$481,000,000
Value of output of factories in 1906 .....	\$718,000,000
Salaries and wages paid in factories, 1901 .....	\$112,000,000
Wages paid in factories, 1906 .....	\$134,000,000

With the opening up of the West, the growth in wealth due to the expansion of our foreign trade, and enlarged mineral development, new life has been infused into manufacturing enterprises as well. Development along this line has been aided, too, by the wisdom shown in so readjusting the tariff as to relieve consumers and manufacturers alike of hampering restrictions previously imposed.

BANKS GROWING WITH THE GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY	
Bank capital paid up, 1896 .....	\$62,000,000
Bank capital paid up, 1907 .....	\$96,000,000
Notes in circulation, 1896 .....	\$31,000,000
Notes in circulation, 1907 .....	\$75,000,000
Deposits, 1896 .....	\$193,000,000
Deposits, 1907 .....	\$655,000,000

The financial interests have felt the momentum which has been given to all lines of industrial enterprise. As a result the volume of bank notes in circulation has much more than doubled, while the prosperity of the country generally is shown by the swelling of the funds on deposit in chartered banks from \$193,000,000 to \$655,000,000.

ONWARD MARCH IN INSURANCE	
Fire Insurance at risk, 1896 .....	\$845,000,000
Fire Insurance at risk, 1907 .....	\$1,615,000,000
Income Straight Life Companies, 1896 .....	\$ 10,000,000
Income Straight Life Companies, 1907 .....	\$37,000,000

The story of progress in banking is duplicated in that which sets forth the expanding business of insurance companies. Notwithstanding the wonderful growth of mutual fire and life insurance organizations, the amount at risk by regular fire companies has almost doubled in eleven years, while the income of straight life companies has increased well nigh four fold.

ENLARGED POSTAL SERVICE	
Post-offices in existence, 1896 .....	9,103
Post-offices in existence, 1908 .....	11,823
Letters carried, 1896 .....	116,000,000
Letters carried, 1908 .....	396,000,000
Value money orders issued, 1896 .....	\$13,000,000
Value money orders issued, 1908 .....	\$55,000,000

The abounding activity in all industrial lines has naturally called for an extension of the country's postal facilities. The demand has been fully met by the progressive Government now in power. Nearly 3,000 new post-offices have been established in twelve years, and such provision has been made for meeting the demands of the people that considerably over three times the number of letters were carried in 1908 than were carried in 1896. Now another and most important further step is being taken by providing for the organization of a rural mail delivery service. Truly,

## THE NAME OF LAURIER STANDS FOR THE GREATER CANADA

# A SPLEN

Review of Liberal Record Contr That of Conser

HARD FACTS DE

Startling Figures Give Idea of W Has Been

The address of Hon. Mr. Fielding did not contain any substance that have been in many a day. He is ing the Opposition to Conservatives would "I can't imagine," he said, "recall the splendid spirit found among the Libe. I can't imagine, I say world has got into it. Tory friends when they are going to meet. He declared that "the best government that is enjoyed" should be a Conservative administration. Mr. Fielding did not on the scandal-mongering his opponents, for explained, that those who ently wished him to be long as it is historical a rule well laid down: "And out what want you to do—and do want us to occupy our petty discussions without attention. They do not the attention of the splendid record."

Conservatives said that a charge of graft to be considered petty, and that it was necessary to be capable, real, and long not say, therefore, that not be room for credit "but," he continued, "to hear the song that Ministers are empty, remember, the fact, that down to the charge of corruption against any member of the administration."

No one in the Opposition had the courage to make the floor of the House an investigation. They had on a number of official appointments, if there are mistakes, there would show, if wilful corruption would go.

These were the startling assertions made by Mr. Fielding in his speech. The discussion turned upon the progress of the financial services used to load, that in eighteen years from the last increase Canada by sixty-six and one-half per cent. The rate they would have to pay had increased Canada by \$10,000,000 about twenty years ago. If the Conservative would have you are all right you have as we did. What was the increase in trade has been five but four hundred millions." (Prolonged applause.)

"Adequate Protection" The leader of the Opposition asked for "adequate protection." Fielding did not know what he did not think did, he was sure Mr. Fielding was tempted, however the report of the Hon. a man who had conspired still the N.P. which is in class rich. "The Liberal Government," he said, "understands it better and better account." (Long applause.) "The Liberal Government understands it better and better account." (Long applause.) "The Liberal Government understands it better and better account." (Long applause.)

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