



THE CONQUERING OF WESTERN CANADA.—NO. 3.—THE AMMUNITION WAGONS AND THE ARSENAL.

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.

REMARKABLE RECORD OF THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT

A Conservative Deficit Turned Into a Big Surplus Under Liberals, While Cost of Service to the Public Has Been Cut in Two.

Terrifying pictures are drawn of the graft and incompetence that characterize public undertakings. It is argued that as the work now done by national and municipal Governments is done badly, the field of their operations ought not to be enlarged. One department of Government in Canada that furnishes no material for such argument is the Post-Office. There was a time when it had a deficit of \$781,152. This was in 1896, the last year of the late Conservative Administration. To-day it has a surplus of \$1,101,827. Considering the nature of the service, and the enormous and sparsely settled territory which is covered, this result is truly remarkable. The result is not obtained by unduly burdening the persons who use the mails. On the contrary, the service rendered in return for a postage stamp is probably better value than is obtained for any other expenditure of money. Note the fact, too, that while the cost of living has been steadily augmented and almost every staple commodity has increased in price, the cost of transmitting letters and other matter through the mails has been steadily reduced. Since 1896 the following reforms have been made: The drop letter rate was reduced from two cents to one cent. The inland letter rate was reduced from three cents to two cents. The letter rate from Canada to the United States was reduced from three cents to two cents.

Cut in Postal Rates.

The letter rate from Canada to Great Britain, and to every portion of the British Empire, has been reduced from five cents to two cents. The rate on Canadian newspapers and periodicals sent from publishers in Canada to subscribers in Great Britain and other parts of the British Empire has been reduced from eight cents per pound to one-quarter of one cent per pound. The rate on newspapers and periodicals sent by the general public in Canada to Great Britain and parts of the

British Empire has been reduced from eight cents per pound to four cents per pound, or 50 per cent. In connection with the last-mentioned reform the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux obtained from the British Postmaster-General a reduction of the rate of postage on British magazines and newspapers coming into Canada from eight cents per pound to two cents per pound. Here is a record which will stand the severest test that could be applied to a private business undertaking, working under the stress of the most strenuous competition. Here we have a financial improvement of nearly two million dollars, combined with a reduction of one-third in the Canadian, American, and Imperial rate, of one-half the local rate, and a much

larger reduction in the case of newspapers and magazines. This is as if a railway company had increased its dividends to shareholders by nearly two millions, and had reduced its passenger rates from three cents to two cents, and had made corresponding larger reductions in the freight tariff.

No Need for Surplus.

There is no reason why the surplus should be maintained, or why the Post-Office or any other department should do more than pay its way. The right use to make of the surplus is to improve the service. Upon this principle the Government is about to introduce rural mail delivery. The problem is more difficult in Canada than in England, in France, in Germany, or in the United States, for the reason that Canada is a land of enormous distances, with a very sparse population. Great Britain has an area of 120,000 square miles, about half the size of Ontario, with six times the population of all Canada. In the United States there is an area no larger than that of Canada to be served, but there is in the United States a population four times as great as ours, and a revenue twenty times as great to bear the cost of the free rural mail delivery. Nevertheless the problem will be faced, and rural mail delivery introduced and extended as fast as the circumstances of the country will permit. It is a courageous step, and its effect will be greatly to improve the conditions of rural life in Canada.

SOME FACTS THAT STIR THE HEART

Figures of Canada's Growth Under Liberal Rule Cannot But Cause Rejoicing.

THE GOVERNMENT HELPED

Wise Encouragement of Industry and Immigration Were of Immense Benefit.

Every patriotic Canadian rejoices in the phenomenal prosperity that our country has enjoyed in recent years, and points with pride to the vast expansion of our industry and commerce. It would be absurd to argue that this growth has been entirely because our national affairs were administered by a Liberal Government. It is due in the main to the splendid opportunities which this country presents to enterprise and thrift, to the vast natural resources from which labor and skill may draw almost unlimited wealth. Nevertheless, it is true that wise government, encouraging industry, promoting trade, and securing desirable immigration, will immensely aid such development and prosperity. Striking evidence of this is found in the remarkable progress made since the people turned dissatisfied from Conservative mismanagement, and placed the control of their public affairs in the hands of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his associates.

The total trade of the Dominion, that is, the aggregate of the value of the imports and exports of all kinds, money included, taken for the alternate years of the last twelve fiscal years of Conservative administration, is set out in the following table compiled from the latest report of the Department of Trade and Commerce:

Year	Value
1886	\$182,072,810
1888	188,776,044
1890	206,592,661
1892	227,554,105
1894	227,354,021
1896	228,272,279

Different in Recent Years.

These figures show a substantial advance, but nothing like what is shown by the figures for the alternate years of the twelve years that have elapsed since, during which a Liberal Government has been doing all in its power to promote the country's welfare. Here are the corresponding figures for this term:

Year	Value
1898	\$290,222,959
1900	367,237,528
1902	414,431,881
1904	464,985,567
1906	546,947,437
1908	638,380,291

Political economists used to argue that a country was disadvantaged by exporting more goods than it imported. This theory is not generally accepted now, but in any case, it could not apply to a new country into which was pouring a desirable immigration, because the possessions of the new country, and also much of the capital in the form of both money and material which came to be used in the opening up and development of the country's resources. Therefore Canada may well be congratulated upon the magnitude of her imports as well as upon her surplus products which we send to other countries. If we take the merchandise imports for the periods above set out, but choosing years at wider intervals for the sake of shortening our tables, we obtain the following statement:

Year	Value
1. Under the Conservative regime, 1888	\$100,671,828
1892	115,160,412
1896	105,361,161
2. Under Liberal Administration, 1900	\$172,506,878
1904	243,590,019
1908	351,825,024



SIR WILFRID READING A QUOTATION.

It's Rural Mail Delivery Now

Liberal Government's Inspiring Record Is Continuing—Nothing in Borden's Claim.

The Government's plan of rural mail delivery is said to have been borrowed from Mr. Borden's Halifax platform. No great harm if it had been. No reason why the Government should refrain from doing a thing merely because Mr. Borden proposed it, but as a matter of fact, the idea of rural mail delivery has been considered by the Post-Office Department under the present Government for many years. The advantages are undoubted, the expense is great, in a country having a small population scattered over an immense area. Consequently the Government has proceeded and will proceed with caution. The charge that the policy of rural mail delivery is borrowed from Mr. Borden's Halifax platform would be more weighty if that policy represented a reversal of the general policy of the Government. It represents, not a reversal, but a continuation and development of the Government's policy. The Government has reduced the rates of postage and extended the service. To repeat: The drop letter rate was reduced from two cents to one cent. The inland letter rate was reduced from three cents to two cents.

IT WOULD BE FOLLY, To Abandon Liberal Methods to Return to Old Regime.

Everyone will admit that there is evidence of prosperity in the exporting of a large surplus of the country's products, but it must be remembered that very rapid growth tends to lessen this surplus, because so much of what is produced is needed to supply the wants of new comers before the results of their labors are available. It is necessary to bear this in mind, to realize how much of prosperity is indicated by the figures in the latter of the following tables, which are for the same years as those just set out. They represent the total exports of merchandise of all kinds from the Dominion:

Year	Value
1. Under the Conservative regime, 1888	\$ 87,161,144
1892	108,806,044
1896	112,985,490
2. Under Liberal Administration, 1900	\$177,576,044
1904	211,055,678
1908	263,368,952

The lesson is obvious. It is simply that the methods adopted by the Liberal party for the encouragement of useful immigration, the facilitating of industry, the opening up of opportunities for agriculture and other wealth-producing operations, have all been more successful and effective than the policies which they replaced. It would be folly to abandon these methods, either to return to the old conditions of comparative stagnation, or to experiment with any new schemes which have not yet been even clearly formulated or explained.

Manufacturers Have Prospered Under Laurier

In no one line has progress been greater under the Laurier Government than it has in manufacturing. Workshops all over Canada have been veritable hives of industry in the last few years, and tall chimneys have been multiplied on every hand.

An improved transportation service, a vigorous immigration policy, and a revived agriculture have had their natural effect in giving a stimulus to industrial enterprise. The table which follows, showing the capital employed in Canadian manufacturing, and value of output of factories, for the years 1900 and 1905 respectively, tells its own story.

FIGURES WHICH TELL OF EXPANSION

Capital employed in Canadian factories in 1900	\$446,000,000
Capital employed in Canadian factories in 1905	\$833,000,000
Increase in 5 years	\$387,000,000
Value of output of factories in 1900	\$481,000,000
Value of output of factories in 1905	\$706,000,000
Increase in 5 years	\$225,000,000

*All the figures given in these tables, save those relating to exports, are for establishments employing five hands and over.

The increase in the volume of goods produced in factories has been accompanied by a corresponding addition to the number of toilers employed. The aggregate increase in the five years, as shown by accompanying table, was 44,000—or equivalent, counting in dependants of workers and those to whom their wages give employment, to the creation of a city of 150,000 people.

Employees in Factories

Number employes in factories, 1900	339,000
" " " " 1905	383,000
Increase in five years	44,000

The salaries and wages paid employes in Canadian factories, employing five hands or more, have grown from \$113,000,000 in 1900 to \$162,000,000 in 1905. Business men do not need to be told what a stimulus an increase of nearly \$50,000,000 in the annual wage bill of artisans gives to trade in all lines.

Wages and Salaries

Salaries and wages paid in 1900	\$113,000,000
" " " " 1905	162,000,000
Increase in five years	\$49,000,000

*In a table previously given the comparison was between salaries and wages in 1900 and wages alone in 1905. In this table the figures cover both salaries and wages in both years.

Ontario's Share in It

Capital employed in Ontario factories 1900	\$215,000,000
" " " " 1905	\$391,000,000
Increase in five years	\$176,000,000
Value output Ontario factories, 1900	\$241,000,000
" " " " 1905	\$361,000,000
Increase in five years	\$120,000,000

Ontario has had her full share in the industrial revival which has taken place. Nearly half the increased capital employed in Canadian manufacturing, and over half the addition to the value of product turned out, is credited to this one Province.

In five Ontario cities the value of the output of factories has increased by a little over \$50,000,000 in five years. In no previous period in Canada's history has anything like such a record been achieved. All Ontario has benefited by this expansion. The cities named have felt the direct effect of the impulse given, and farmers have been enriched by supplying a market at their own doors.

Expansion in Ontario Cities

City	Value Output 1900	Value Output 1905	Increase
Toronto	\$58,415,000	\$85,714,000	\$27,299,000
Hamilton	17,122,000	24,625,000	7,503,000
London	8,122,000	12,626,000	4,504,000
Ottawa	7,638,000	10,641,000	3,003,000
Peterboro	3,789,000	11,566,000	7,777,000

The most convincing evidence of the success of the Laurier fiscal and general policy is seen in the leap in our exports of manufactured goods. A policy that has removed restrictions and given intelligent aid to manufacturers has placed our factories in a position to compete not only in the home market but in foreign countries as well. The proof is seen in the table, which tells of an increase in manufactured exports from \$10,000,000 in 1896 to \$28,500,000 in 1908.

THE EXPORT END OF IT

Export of manufactured products, 1896	\$10,000,000
Export of manufactured products, 1908	\$28,500,000
Increase in 12 years	\$18,500,000

The Best Assurance

of continued progress will be found in maintaining in power the Government under which such vast progress has already been made.