

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 position held by 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 co-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 to 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 so high a 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 \$216,966,232
1908 628,880,251

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 \$95,542,446
1908 220,556,507

3. Imports from Great Britain to Canada:

1896 \$32,824,505
1908 94,362,383

4. Imports from United States to Canada:

1896 \$53,529,390
1908 78,125,167

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 northern neighbor 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:

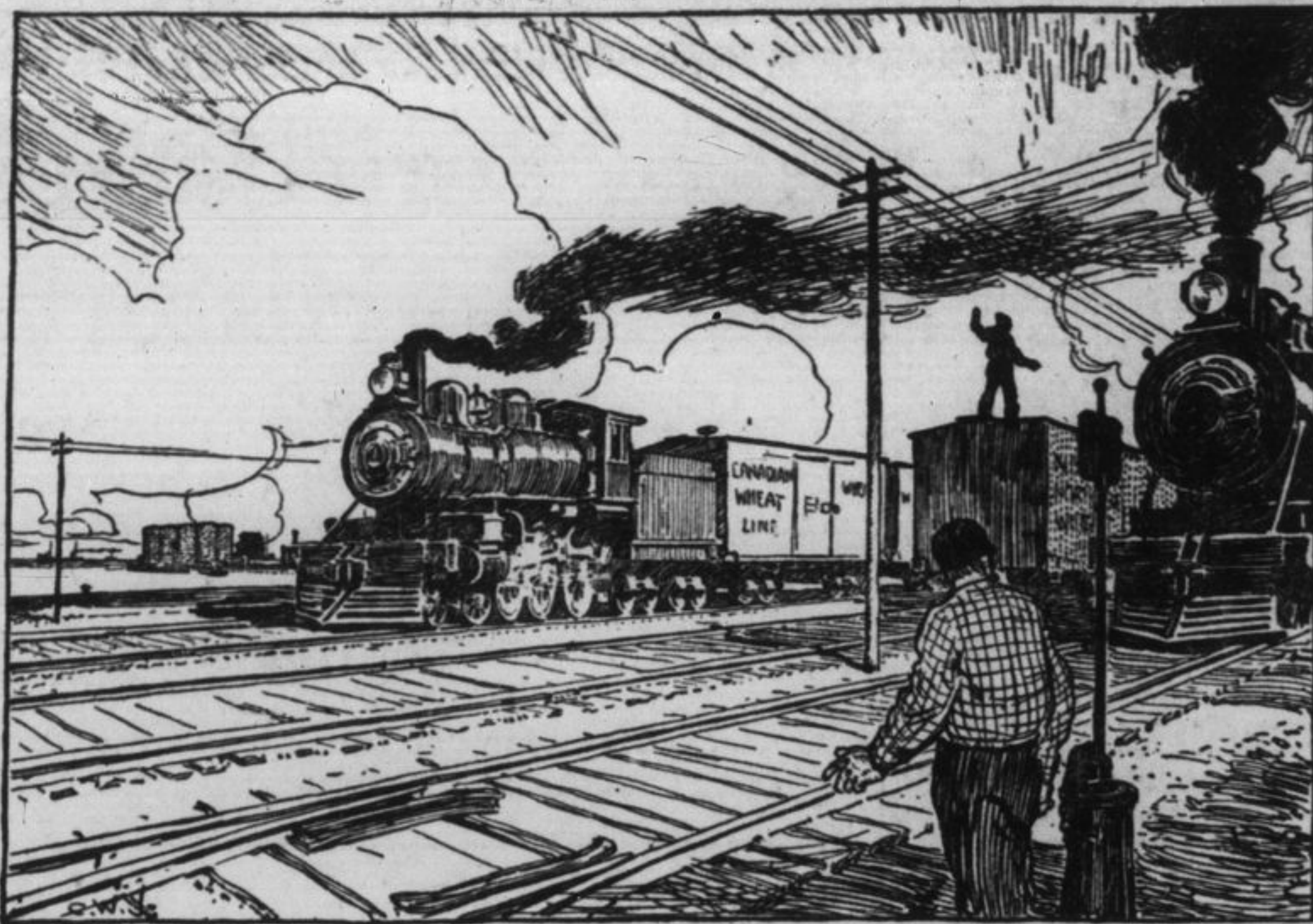
1896 \$ 82,717,941
1908 126,194,124

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. These who are familiar with the usual line of attack upon 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. On the other hand, expression is sometimes given in the East to a feeling that the West has been built up by Eastern money and that Eastern manufacturers are entitled to a return in the form of a protective tariff which will insure them the Western market. Obviously this is a case for careful handling and moderation. If there were a demand for free trade, it might be necessary to renege with the Western farmer. But in this part of Canada at least, the extreme against which it is necessary to guard shows itself in demands for great increases in the tariff. We must not push the West too hard, nor carry too far the contention that the East has put the West under a tremendous obligation by building railroads and bringing in immigrants. There is danger of provoking a reaction which will show itself in force as the growth of population causes the centre of political power to move westward. All protective tariffs rest upon the consent of the people, and Western Canada, when thickly populated, would be a powerful addition to anti-protection sentiment. A moderate tariff is a political necessity in Canada, as much as a political necessity as a policy of freedom and equality in religion.



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.

Not at all. Mr. Doherty is a high tariff man, who thinks that the Liberal Government has gone too far toward carrying out the Liberal platform of 1893. Formerly a low tariff advocate, he finds in the advanced conditions of the country the need for an alteration of policy. He believes that adequate protection would in a few years give Canada a population of twenty millions. "Vote for the party which favors the protection of your industries."

Thus the Liberal Government is blamed for carrying out the platform of 1893, and for not carrying it out. It is blamed because the tariff is too high and because the tariff is too low. What sort of tariff policy is likely to emanate from a party which takes these opposite positions?

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.

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 these industries were ruined, and that their mills might close, and that they saw starting 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."

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

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|--|-----------|
| 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, 1901-6 | 128,800 |
| Acres put in crop in 1896 by immigrants arriving in previous 5 years | 408,139 |
| 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 | 24,268,000 |
| 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 | \$113,000,000 |
| 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

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|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Post-offices in existence, 1896 | 8,103 |
| Post-offices in existence, 1908 | 11,823 |
| Letters carried, 1896 | 116,000,000 |
| Letters carried, 1908 | 396,000,000 |
| Value money orders issued, 1896 | \$12,000,000 |
| 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