

on both sides of the Harbor, both the free area and the protected.

I am a staunch Protectionist, but with the example of Great Britain before us, I am bound to recognize that both Free Trade and Protection have their advantages. A Free Port on the South Shore would give the advantages of both. The South Shore is the only place available in the interests of Montreal. The exigencies of the Customs, demand that the Free Port be kept quite separate from the Protected area, so as to facilitate the collection of duties when the goods are shipped into protected Canada. Obviously it must be accessible to ocean-going ships.

One great advantage of a Free Port would be the obviating of delays in getting imports. Instead of having to go to Europe to buy goods and then wait six months for their delivery and then pay duty and store them if the market happens to have been demoralized during the delay; the buyer would simply come to the port of Montreal, buy his goods on sight, have them shipped at his own convenience and pay duties on delivery.

I wish you the utmost success in your campaign.

Yours truly,

GEORGE G. FOSTER.