

revulsion from self-government occurring in the capital of Canada is significant. The inhabitants have witnessed at closest range the operation of parliament, and value least the heritage of representative institutions.

The new system works well because the newly-elected commissioners are good men. When bad men gain control of the electoral machinery, as they did before and will do again in the absence of unceasing vigilance on the part of the people, the last state of democracy will be worse than the first, because democracy has stretched out its neck and is now only waiting for some tyrant to set his heel upon it more ruthlessly than ever before.

In Canada commissions for various purposes have been created, and they work so well that when any fresh difficulty arises a new commission is invariably proposed. The tariff has always been a troublesome matter in Canadian politics. Indeed 616,948 voters at the last election signified their dissatisfaction with the present arrangement; and if one can judge by what one hears they are not silenced by the result. Indeed they profess themselves as being ready to alter the present rate of duty on the first occasion that arises. This recalcitrancy is little better for the protected industries than a reduction in the tariff, since no manufacturer can tell what a day will bring forth, and he is loath to hazard his capital in an enterprise which is protected against competition only by the voters' whim. Therefore we can understand how important it is to them that the tariff should be taken out of politics and entrusted to a commission of their own creation.

There is nothing which touches the people so nearly as the tariff. It accompanies them in their going out and coming in, in their rising up and lying down. It also determines whether they shall lie down alone and hungry or with a companion and well filled; and the course of the human race in turn depends upon that. If, then, the tariff is to be made by a commission, I fear that the people will demand some voice in the appointment of it. To entrust the matter to those alone who have an interest in maintaining duties at a certain