

of Canada in 1911 was eight hundred million dollars, and that the total trade in 1912 was nine hundred and sixty-eight million dollars. This to Liberals is a gratifying feature, because the principles of Liberalism lead the votaries of Liberalism to believe that the expansion of the trade is one of the general indications of the prosperity of the people, and that the prosperity is not injured by the measures of government. That shows an increase of 20 per cent. We know that prices have been very much increased during the past year, that probably 10 per cent out of the 20 per cent of this increase is due to the increased price of commodities. We know that the articles that have been imported are increased to that extent. We hope that the figures realized in the places of sale will amount to the high prices which are charged in the invoices, the sum of which constitutes the bulk of our exports. We know the prices have been high, and we hope that they will be realized, but I fear from some accounts that I have received that many of our shipments will not realize the amount which has been fixed and recorded in statistics as being the invoice prices of commodities in the country. We have 10 per cent owing to the increased price of commodities, and we have 10 per cent due to the magnificent agencies and the magnificent surveillance of the government. I do not say that the principle is wrong. I say that it is a gratifying occurrence, and with the high hopes and expectations which were formed of the transforming designs of the government, we hope for much larger results. The hon. leader of the government I think felicitated himself yesterday on having made a convert of a very conspicuous character in the House. Now I return the compliment and felicitate him that he has made and introduced to the principles of Liberalism two very eloquent advocates in the persons of the mover and the seconder of the address in reply to the speech from the Throne, and I may go further and congratulate the hon. leader of the government on the fact that I believe that he himself is a proselyte at the gate and that he is approaching the principles of Liberalism, and from the speech which he delivered yesterday and the

materials which he used, and the enthusiasm of his view, that he is making high progress towards the advanced ideas of Liberalism and that we will soon be able to welcome him, not only as a convert, but as an honoured member of the Liberal party. If there was any one element on which the Conservative party seemed to base its pretensions to exercise the best energy of the country and one element on which they were disposed to place before the electors their superiority to their opponents it was this: that they intended to balance the imports into the country by the exports out of the country, and that it was political heresy that the preponderance of goods brought into the country was so great over the value of the goods sent out of the country. Now we have not the bulk and quantity of the articles upon which you can form a just estimate as to whether the trade of the country has been beneficial or not, nor have we the details for contrasting the amount of consumption in one year with the amount of consumption in another year, and for inspecting and knowing the quality of articles which were introduced, inasmuch as they might enter into consumption and be luxuries which might be produced in this country or whether this money represents raw material which is introduced for the purpose of being afterwards manufactured, or whether it represents articles brought in for consumption in this country which cannot be produced here and which may be articles of necessity. We have not that detail. I do not know that the statistics are made up on that basis, and, therefore, we must take the general principles of taking the money value, in place of taking the bulk and qualities and kinds of articles which are introduced, but, certainly it was laid down as a fundamental principle of the Conservative party that they aimed at equalizing the imports by the exports. And what do we find? In 1911, under the Liberal government, we imported of dutiable goods \$301,000,000. In 1912, under the Conservative government, we imported \$393,000,000. Of those millions in 1911 there were free goods amounting to \$178,000,000. Sixty per cent of those were free goods, and the total was \$479,000,000. Of dutiable