The Monetary Times

Absorbed the INTERCOLONIAL JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, 1869; the TRADE REVIEW, Montreal, 1870; and the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, Toronto.

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The Monetary Times

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PRINCIPAL CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE.

CANADIAN TRADE WITH JAPAN.

By Hon. T. Nosse, Imperial Japanese Consul-General For Canada.

The article which follows was written for the Monetary Times by Mr. Nosse in response to a request for his views as to the prospects for extended commerce between Canada and the Orient. No man in Canada is so well qualified to discuss the question as Mr. Nosse, who has for several years represented the Japanese Government at Vancouver and Ottawa.

Prior to 1895 the export of Canadian products to Japan was too insignificant to notice. In the year following, the total export was only $8,000. Since then there has been a steady increase in all lines of merchandise, especially in dry-salt-pickled salmon, which exportation was begun in 1897 by Mr. Tamura, an enterprising Japanese merchant, in Vancouver, with remarkable success.

But large increase did not come until, as the result of the practical and businesslike demonstrations made by the Canadian Government at the Osaka Exhibition in 1903, $142,000 worth of Canadian flour, made from Manitoba hard wheat was first shipped to Japan in 1904. The total export from Canada in that year amounted to $342,000. During 1905, with further increase in flour and salmon, the total export rose to $510,000.

It is pleasing to note that within the last ten years, starting with only $8,000 in 1895, we have now worked up to over the half million mark, with a prospect of this amount being doubled in the next five years, or even less. The fact that the Japanese have become large importers of both European and American products is shown by the following figures. The Americans are enjoying so far a very large share of this most lucrative trade. Although as yet Canada has been very much behind the times, there is a possible prospect of a much larger exportation to Japan.

Importation into Japan of staple goods for 1905.

	Total.	From U. S.	From Canada.
Wheat	$ 2,065,000	$1,215,000	$......
Oats, barley	760,000	380,000	......
Wheat flour	4,975,000	4,812,000	52,000
Meats	225,000	71,000	......
Milk, condensed	805,000	457,000	......
Salmon, dry-salt	360,000	186,000	148,000
Pulp	523,000	65,000	......
Papers	2,472,000	250,000	3,600
Cardboard	158,000	134,000	......
Canned foods	297,000	237,000	5,800
Fertilizer	11,175,000	457,000	17,200
Leather	7,625,000	5,545,000	2,600
Butter	66,000	34,000	7,200
Margarine	132,000	124,000	......
Lumber	645,000	235,000	81,000
Bicycles	388,000	235,000	1,800
Farm Implements	288,000	173,000	......
Nickel	588,000	173,000	......
Lead	943,000	391,000	......
Soaps	243,000	45,000	3,300
Cotton goods	85,485,000	1,150,000	4,600
Woolen goods	17,624,000	136,000	175
Coal	6,990,000	462,000	......

Of all these staple goods, which are exported from the United States, Canada is in a position to take a share, with equal advantages. Of course, the United States' export trade to Japan has a standing of over forty years. But it is only recently that their export trade has reached such a gigantic figure. In 1873, their export trade to Japan only amounted to $500,000; in 1883, to $1,500,000; and in 1893 to $3,000,000. In 1904 it reached $29,580,000, and in 1906, $38,460,000, being very nearly twenty-five per cent. of Japan's total imports from the foreign countries.

Some Telling Figures.

Yet the Americans appear not to be fully satisfied with their remarkable success in Japan. As Mr. W. J. Ballard, of Schenectady, N.Y., said once in his re-