

tions which enable me to make such a gratifying statement of the affairs of the Dominion. We have every reason to view the progress of our country in the past with pleasure. We have even more reason for looking forward with hope and confidence to the great future that is before those whose privilege it is to dwell on this northern half of the American continent. We may differ in many respects, but not in our gratification that prosperity in a large degree has visited our country. Never in any previous period in our history was the future so full of promise. Never before in her history did our country loom so largely in the eyes of the world. We have ourselves long been aware of the magnificent resources of our vast territories, but our efforts to make these resources known and appreciated abroad have sometimes been less successful than could have been wished. But whatever may be said of the past in that respect, we have nothing to complain of now. In the mother country, on the continent of Europe, and even in the republic to the south of us, the story of Canada's advancement, Canada's wealth of resources, and Canada's splendid future is engaging the attention of the people, and many thousands of immigrants of the best class are crowding the steamships and the railway trains in their haste to reach the new country. We have every reason to welcome these people. We are glad to know that they are casting in their lot with us. Let us, to whom, as members of parliament, is given the high privilege of directing the affairs of this Dominion, fail not in anything that is within our power to give assurance to our new citizens that the land to which they have come is one that will reward intelligent and faithful labour with the blessings of peace, happiness and prosperity. I beg to give notice of the following resolutions:

That it is expedient to further amend 'The Customs Tariff, 1897,' to the following effect:—

That the following sections be added to the said Act:—

The Governor in Council may by Order in Council direct that a duty of seven dollars per ton shall be imposed in Schedule A on all iron and steel railway bars, or rails in any form for railways, imported into Canada; and from and after the publication of such Order in the 'Canada Gazette' such duties shall be levied, collected and paid on all such rails; and thereafter item 238 in Schedule A and item 585 in Schedule B shall be repealed.

Provided, however, that such Order shall not be passed until the Governor in Council is satisfied that steel rails of the best quality, suitable for the use of Canadian railways, are being manufactured in Canada, from steel made in Canada, in sufficient quantity to meet the ordinary requirements of the market.

Articles which are the growth, produce or manufacture of any foreign country which treats imports from Canada less favourably than those from other countries may be subject to a surtax over and above the duties of Schedule A, such surtax in every case to be one-third of the duty as fixed by such Schedule A.

Such surtax shall apply to any article, the chief value of which was produced in such foreign country, although it may have been improved or advanced in value by the labour of another country, notwithstanding the provisions of the British preferential tariff and regulations thereunder.

Any question arising as to any foreign country or goods coming under the operation of this section shall be decided by the Minister of Customs, whose decision shall be final.

The Minister of Customs, with the approval of the Governor in Council, may make regulations for carrying out the purposes of this section.

Such surtax shall not apply to any goods actually purchased on or before the 16th day of April, 1903, by any corporation, firm or person in Canada, for immediate transportation to Canada.

That the period of exemption from duty of machinery of every kind and structural iron and steel for use in the construction and equipment of factories for the manufacture of sugar from beet root be extended to the 30th day of June, 1904.

That item 409 in Schedule A, respecting duty on ships and other vessels built in foreign countries and applying for Canadian register, be repealed.

That machinery and appliances of a kind not made in Canada for exclusive use in alluvial gold mining be added to the free list until June 30, 1904.