

content that the Imperial Government should work out the details of the policy suggested on lines which would best suit the forty millions within the British Isles. There was a clear and definite proposition put before the Conference. Canada had already formulated and carried out a policy of preference in favour of the Motherland, and it was found that, unless that preference was in some degree reciprocal, its results would be inadequate and might possibly be mischievous. But it was neither fitting nor proper that the Colonies should do more than suggest upon what lines Great Britain should proceed to formulate a Tariff Reform which would meet the requirements of her own people and self-governing Colonies. The speeches of statesmen in every part of the Empire, and in particular the utterances of the Finance Minister of Canada, leave not a shadow of doubt that, as far as the Imperial Government have outlined their Tariff Reform policy, they have the sympathy of the Colonies. Mr. Fielding, the Minister of Finance in Canada, represents the Maritime Provinces, and the victory of the Liberal Party at the late General Election has been without precedent, particularly so in that portion of Canada represented by Mr. Fielding.

The word "friction" is constantly held up as a bugbear in connection with a readjustment of tariffs within the Empire; but Canada has achieved the notable feat of consolidation of an enormous area and diverse populations, two millions of whom are of the Latin race, and does not regard possible or even probable friction with the same dread as do the authors of "Canada and the Empire."

The history of legislation in Canada has been a constant adjustment and readjustment of her tariff, and there is a certain adaptability and pliability in colonial legislation which meets with admirable precision the exigencies of changing situations. As for the Imperial "Dole," which is also continually to the fore in Messrs. Montague and Herbert's work, intelligent Canadians are aware that the Imperial Government does not mete out "doles" to any of her Colonies at the expense of her forty millions in Great Britain. The British