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OUR NEXT COMMERCIAL CRISIS AUG 26

The Merchant who annually purchases more goods than he sells soon goes to ruin. The farmer who annually buys \$50 or \$100 a year more than he realizes for his produce readily knows that he is getting poorer, that he will ere long be farmless. Every business man is aware that if his customers do not annually pay him enough to cover his outlay for stock and current expenses, that he will soon see the face of a lawyer's writ and his business have a Sheriff to manage it.

The principle so plain and easily to be understood in private affairs, applies with exactly the same results to the annual business operations of a whole country.

With the principle thus distinctly stated upon which both individual and national prosperity is founded, we have only to learn the annual income and expenditure of any man or

of any country, to ascertain whether they are financially strong or weak, whether they are progressing to wealth and independence or to ruin and desolation.

The government of a country may annually pay all its current expenses from annual net revenue, and yet that country be surely progressing to ruin, or that government may not pay one-half of its current expenses, and yet that country be fast accumulating wealth.

All those who have hitherto only looked to either the smallness or greatness of Canada's national debt, as an index to the soundness of its commercial position, have been forming conclusions from a knowledge which cannot possibly have any direct or positive bearing upon the question, any more than the ability of a landlord to pay his annual expenses from his rents, proves that he is annually