

In wearing apparel, the exports in 1894 amounted only to \$42,191. Of this amount, \$7,206 were exported to Great Britain, \$23,615 to the United States, and \$1,000 to China. In 1901, the export of wearing apparel had risen to \$664,111. The exports of steel amounted in 1901 to \$607,526, of which by far the largest amount was exported to the United States, \$304,589, and only \$142,297 to Great Britain. The exports of machinery in 1894 amounted to \$150,430, and last year they had risen to \$659,299. We have made the same progress in a number of other items which might be given as evidence of the expansion of the general trade of the country.

The proposal to increase the number of Canadian commercial agencies in various countries will, I am sure, meet with the approval of all hon. members of this House. In this particular, the example of the United States could be followed by us with advantage. I find that they have some 1,100 consuls, or commercial agents, distributed over thirty-five countries of the world. They have in Great Britain 222 such agents and they have in Canada alone 175 commercial agents. Of the eleven hundred, three hundred only are paid officials. Six hundred are of their own nationality, United States citizens, and the remaining 500 are foreigners, chosen in their respective countries, who accept the office for the honour and the standing attached to the position. It seems to me that following that example would be the best way to advertise Canada abroad, and these commercial agents would be the best mediums through whom to distribute such literature about our commerce and products as can be printed, and it would be also a means of establishing commercial relations between this country and different parts of the world.

I am sure every member of this honourable House will rejoice to hear that a conference between the representatives of the Canadian and Australasian governments will take place in England early next summer for the consideration of trade and other questions of intercolonial interest, and that the proceedings will be conducted by our eminent Canadian Prime Minister. It gives a strong hope, if not an assurance, that Canada will reap substantial benefits from the conference. Canada will also have the advantage of

being represented at the Coronation festivities by the right hon. Sir Wilfred Laurier. He will doubtless, by his personality and eloquence of speech, leave behind him in England, as he did on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee, a most favourable and lasting impression which will redound alike to his honour and to the good of the country he so worthily represents.

Hon. gentlemen, kindly and favourably as my nomination to this honourable House has been received by English and French, Conservatives and Liberals, I feel that I cannot close these few remarks without expressing to all and especially to the press my most hearty thanks. I move

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Gracious Speech at the opening of the present Session; and, further, to assure His Excellency that—

1. We unite with His Excellency, at the commencement of another Session of Parliament, in expressing the deep sense of our gratitude to Divine Providence for the many blessings which Canada has received during the past year, and particularly for the exceptionally bountiful harvest in Manitoba and the North-west Territories.

2. We receive with much pleasure His Excellency's expression of gratification at the cordial reception tendered by all classes of the people, to the Prince and Princess of Wales, on the occasion of their visit in September and October last, the only regrettable feature being the limited time at their disposal, which prevented their visiting many important centres of population; and we are happy to know that their Royal Highnesses enjoyed their tour through Canada, and carried away the most pleasant recollections of their visits to this part of the empire.

3. We have shared the feeling of sympathy and sorrow which the assassination of President McKinley has elicited throughout the civilized world, and we are glad to be informed that, though Canada has happily so far been free from crimes of this character, the close proximity to the United States may make it advisable to join our efforts to the efforts of the United States and other nations and to provide by legislation for the adequate punishment of those who, either by speech or writing, incite fanatics to the perpetration of such horrible crimes.

4. We are pleased to learn that the returns of the late census will be laid before us and that, while the absolute increase in the number of population is not so great as might have been expected, the evidences of growth in wealth and in the general tokens of prosperous development are highly satisfactory; and also that there is good reason to believe that the increase of population during the latter half of the decade has been very greatly in excess of the average of former years and that in the near future we may look for a much more rapid growth than occurred during the period covered by the last two censuses.

5. We learn with great satisfaction that, application having been made by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for approval of an increase of its capital, to meet the demand for