

That there is no check, or indication of a change, of the previously mentioned splendid progress is proved by the figures of the last four months ending October 31st. The first four months of the new fiscal year beginning July 1st, last show \$11,878,615 greater trade than the corresponding four months of last year. Agriculture alone furnished \$7,723,363 of this increase. The excess of the whole exports over the whole imports was \$10,052,210.

OUR IMPORT TRADE.

The amount of duty paid on the \$202,791,595 of goods imported in the year ending June 30th, 1902, was \$32,425,532. The percentage of duty paid therefore on all the importations for that year dutiable and free was 15.99, or just about 16 per cent. The duty paid in 1896 on all goods imported, dutiable and free, was 18.28 per cent, viz; 2.29 cents more than was paid in 1902, or more by about one-seventh of the present duty 15.99.

If the 1896 rate of 18.28 per cent were applied to the importations of 1902 there would have been collected in duties \$37,070,300 instead of \$32,425,532; making an additional taxation in a single year of \$4,644,771. This would have been an addition of about one-seventh to the consumers taxation for the past year.

The taxation, which was at once materially reduced by the reform tariff of 1897, was further gradually reduced as our people from year to year increased their importations under the 33 1-3 per cent. Preferential Tariff and availed themselves to a greater extent of the many importations which by the Reform Tariff had been placed on the free list.

This table of the amount per head of free importations into Canada for use here, shows a marked increase in such importations. This proves. First, the increase of the list of free importations; Secondly, the increase in industrial development in the country which requires this class of goods; Thirdly, the present free list is made up almost entirely of what may be called raw material, allowed to be imported free for the benefit of Canadian industries. The table shows how enormously the importation of these goods has increased, from \$8.60 per head in 1896 to \$15.45 per head in 1902.

Statement of the Imports per head, entered for consumption free of duty.

1891.....	\$ 7.98
1892.....	9.45
1893.....	10.47
1894.....	10.06
1895.....	9.28
1896.....	8.60