

Now, notwithstanding the advantages of the treaty of 1854, our honourable opponents may claim, and I know that they will, that the conditions of 1854 were far different from the present prosperous conditions of 1911. True the conditions have changed; but neither geographical nor climatic conditions have changed. The nature of our products has not changed, nor has the character of the products of the U. S. But our lines of transportation east and west, north and south, have been perfected, and if there was good reason for a demand for Reciprocity in 1854, there is a better reason for a demand for Unrestricted Reciprocity in 1911.

Moreover, are our honourable opponents aware that at present: (1) the Canadian tariff rates are less than half those of the U. S.; (2) the Canadian exports of farm products to the U. S. are only one-third as much as in 1866; (3) the Canadian imports from the U. S. are now over five times what they then were; (4) the Canadian imports from Great Britain have increased less than 10% since 1866; (5) the Canadian exports of farm products to Great Britain have increased 20-fold; (6) Canada buys three times as much from the U. S. as she sells to that country, leaving out of account the precious metals; (7) Canada annually buys at least \$10,000,000 more manufactured goods from the U. S. than from all the rest of the world; (8) Canada finds her chief market for her grain products in Great Britain; (9) that of the total imports of Canada, 63% comes from the U. S.; (10) that Canada gives the U. S. 73% of her entire free list, and in return practically receives no free list except the precious metals.

From these statistics it is obvious that Canada cannot afford to continue under the present relations with the U. S., they do not serve to promote her prosperity. That prosperity, we contend, would be promoted by the policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity, which in the subject of this evening's debate is affirmed to be desirable from a Canadian standpoint.

I will now treat of some of Canada's most important industries showing the benefits that would be derived in every case from Unrestricted Reciprocity.

First and foremost the farming industry. The Canadian farmers, especially those of the West, want a large market and the U. S. provides it. Being producers of a superabundant quantity of wheat and grain, no sane person doubts that free entrance to the American markets would be of great advantage to them.