

therefore check demand in proportion to the rise in price, and consequently check the demand for labour.

The exaltation in the price of sugar caused by the surtax, must check demand for sugar and other commodities or securities to the value of about \$7,200,000 per annum. The smaller quantity demanded will require fewer people to produce and distribute it. The demand for labour will therefore be checked as a result of the rise in the price of sugar. For the first time in seven years, wages are on the down grade in Canada, an infallible sign that the proportionate number of the unemployed is increasing.

The Hon. Mr. Chamberlain induced the Commons of Great Britain to put a duty on sugar for much the same reason advanced for imposing our own surtax, i.e. revenge on Germany.

The effect on labour in Great Britain has been disastrous, for sugar increased in price, involving a decreased demand for sugar or other commodities, equal to about \$60,000,000 per annum. An item in the London Times weekly 23 December 1904, tells us "that at that time there was 12,000 fewer persons employed in the confectionery industries than in 1901, and that there were 50,000 workers on short time." The loss in wages owing to the enforced idleness of these 62,000 people would be about \$8,000,000 per annum. The check to demand this loss in wages entails has thrown thousands out of work in other industries. We have here a practical illustration of the effect the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain's scheme of preferential duties in the supposed interest of the colonies, would have on labour in Great Britain. Under his scheme a long list of commodities would be suddenly exalted in price. A corresponding check to demand would necessarily occur, involving a loss of employment to hundreds of thousands. A great exodus of the urban population would at once become a necessity, the majority of whom would be lost to the Empire forever, for, as in the past, only a small percentage of those who leave Great Britain for good, settle in other parts of the Empire. Under such a system her trade with the colonies would decrease, as it did under the preferential tariff abolished in 1849.

Prices in the United States have been exalted during the last few years, by imposts and restrictions very similar to our surtax and dumping clause. As prices advanced, the number of the unemployed increased, until 100,000 people were out of work in the City of New York alone. For the whole of the United States sever