

ing advantages of self-defensive protection. For protection is for the farmer as well as for the manufacturer. The latter is already keenly alive to the situation; the farmer, unfortunately, is sometimes apt to confound no-protection with one-sided reciprocity, and to consider the present weak tariff as a compromise, which leaves reciprocity still a possibility. As a matter of fact however, a higher tariff would itself be reciprocal, for the tariff wall already exists on one side, and to retaliate from our side would merely be reciprocity in protection. Protection can only be met by protection.

The farmers need protection for themselves. Eighty-two per cent. of our farm-product exports goes to Great Britain; the United States takes only ten per cent., or \$8,240,000, while Canada actually imports from that country farm produce to the value of \$25,460,000! Canada's farmers should ponder this. Not only are manufacturers being imported, but the products of foreign farms are coming in to lessen the profits of our own farms.

The Canadian farmer needs protection also in order to restrict the exodus of young men, which is felt most severely in the country districts and on the farms. There are living in the United States today a full million of native-born Canadians, or enough to produce all the manufactured goods which we import from that country. What might we not hope for in the way of industrial development if we had this million of our own sons back with us, and conditions such that they could go to work on our own farms or in our own mills? Improved industrial conditions would keep young men at home.

Another reason why the Canadian farmer should welcome protection is because it would strengthen and develop the home market, and in every respect the home market is to be preferred to the foreign. It saves heavy transportation charges, which in the end revert upon the producer; it gives quicker returns and is

financially safer; it furnishes a demand more easily and more readily supplied; and by mutual dealing it stimulates national commerce and encourages local investment of capital. Adequate protection would leave this home market entirely in the hands of the home producer, and a direct gain would thus be made both by the farmer and by the tradesman.

Again, farmers would be benefitted by protection because the farming, mining, and manufacturing interests of the country are all interwoven and have common concern in the national welfare. They cannot and should not be paired off against each other. If Canada is to be built up her success depends upon the prosperity of every branch of industry and not upon any one alone. To retard the manufacturing industries, for instance, is to lessen the chances of the laborer and the tradesman, and thus to minimize the market for the farmer. The farmer is, therefore, both directly and indirectly concerned in the readjustment of the tariff. His chief fear heretofore has been that higher protection would require him to pay higher prices for his implements and other supplies, but Canadian manufacturers now stand ready to pledge maintenance of present prices if only they can secure the domestic patronage.

#### Labor and Protection

LABOR needs and deserves protection. Competition is not always fair. The conditions governing production vary greatly in different countries, and the same article produced in one place may represent a much larger or a much lower outlay than in another. Under such circumstances competition becomes unfair. An article manufactured in a foreign country where labor is cheap and low-class, and perhaps where sweat-shop methods are in vogue, may, if permitted entrance, seriously interfere with domestic manufactures in the same line, where labor is high-class, fully organized, and