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THE NATIONAL POLICY.

That the National Policy is doing its good work in Canada is evidenced in every issue of *THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER*, for in its department "Captains of Industry" is constantly recorded the events that prove this assertion. A large proportion of the pages of this journal are required to keep our readers advised of the new enterprises being started, the tall chimneys being built, the investment of capital and the additional avenues opened for labor in this happy and prosperous country. It was feared that when the Conservative party went out of power and the Liberal party came in, the National Policy was to be abandoned, and quick and long strides were to be taken in the direction of free trade. Happily for the manufacturers and for the whole country, whatever may have been the promises or the intention of the leaders of the Liberal party before their advent to power, the forebodings that threatened changes would be made have not been realized, and from present appearances, will not be. Our manufacturers never were the slaves of any party, nor will they ever be. Believers as they are in a policy of tariff protection to the industries in which they have invested their wealth, they have always adhered to the party that promised and gave them that protection. Owing to circumstances over which they had no control whatever, they find that the party that had given them protection went out of power, and that another party is now in power. They find, too, that notwithstanding the fears that beset them that the change boded evil for them, they find that the party now in power, with a perspicacity that does them infinite credit, are not at all disposed to abandon the National Policy, but to uphold it in all its integrity; and this knowledge has resulted in the confidence in the Government that impels them to renewed exertions. This feeling of confidence is the thing that is causing the erection of high factory chimneys in all directions. In our opinion the National Policy is more firmly established in Canada than ever before. Of course the Conservative party, now in the cold shades of Opposition, could never hope to regain power should they reject the means by which they first obtained control of the government, and the

Liberal party, now in power, have adopted in its entirety the principles of the National Policy, which, they find, are so entirely essential to the prosperity of Canada. The manufacturers of Canada undoubtedly hold the balance of power as between the existing parties, and they will undoubtedly exercise that power in favor of the National Policy.

A QUEER IDEA.

The Hamilton Spectator, according to its own showing, is possessed of a queer idea. It seems that the Secretary of the Ottawa Central Fair invited the general manager of the Montreal Cotton Company's Mills at Valleyfield, Que., to make an exhibit of the company's products at the forthcoming Ottawa Fair, which Mr. Louis Simpson, the manager, declined as follows:—

DEAR SIR:—For the first time in our history we exhibited our goods last year in Montreal. The exhibition cost us somewhere between \$500 and \$1,000. We were so disgusted at the treatment which we received, that we determined never to exhibit again. We had at that exhibition what was probably the best exhibit of cotton goods ever shown in Canada, and there was not a newspaper that would even give us a notice, unless we were prepared to pay for the same as an advertisement. Our exhibit in Montreal did not return us one cent for all our outlay, and I personally do not feel justified in seeking to in any way alter the decision we then came to last year, namely, not to exhibit at any of the exhibitions held in Canada until such times as the Canadian press are willing to do justice to the exhibits shown without demanding payment, irrespective of the intrinsic value of the exhibit.

This, the Spectator says, is queer doctrine, and proceeds to lecture Mr. Simpson because he will not allow himself to be bled by the local newspapers who decline to tell of the attractions to be seen at their fairs unless at the usual rate, we suppose, of so much per line. The Spectator says:—

There is nothing extraordinary about this man. He is one of a large class who imagines that it is the duty of newspapers to build up their businesses for them without asking for money in return for their services. It would be interesting to be told by one of these men how they think newspapers manage to live. The newspaper business is precisely like the cotton business. The Valleyfield Cotton Mills Company has goods to sell, and makes its living by selling these goods. The newspapers have advertising space to sell and make their living by selling that space. If a newspaper proprietor were to go to the Valleyfield cotton man and say, "Give me cotton to the value of \$500 or \$1,000 to help my business along," the cotton man would put down the newspaper man as being either a lunatic or the cheekiest beggar he ever encountered. And that is precisely what the Valleyfield man is asking the newspapers to do for him—to give him \$500 or \$1,000 worth of their goods to help his business along.

In our opinion the Spectator views the matter from the wrong standpoint. Mr. Simpson did not ask the Montreal newspapers to build up any business for his company. He had invested a large amount of money in preparing his exhibit and in attending upon it at the Montreal Fair, and this was done quite as much to boom and benefit the fair as his own business. His outlay was intended to add to the attractiveness of the fair and to thereby benefit Montreal. Judging from the methods observed at the Toronto Fair, the Montreal papers gave full and lengthy particulars of the attractions at their show such as prize cattle, speeding in the horse ring, cat concerts, dog shows, the general appearance of things, etc., but manufacturers who had expended large sums of money in preparing