

556, covering all our mine products, and you will find they are absolutely free from protection of any kind.

Re paragraph "3." You say "British Columbia must work out its own salvation in the matter of its mines," etc. Cavalier advise I must say. The B. C. mining industry is in the position of a man who has had his arms and legs tied and been thrown into the sea, and then you come along and call out to him, to save himself the best he can.

It is just as well to start out from a good foundation, and ascertain our true relationship to the Dominion, and the latter's relation to the mining industry, and understand our position. British Columbia joined the Dominion, July 20th, 1871.

The policy of a protective tariff was not adopted until 1879, such being the case, it was impossible for us when we joined to have foreseen, or discussed the effect of such a policy on the destiny of this province, or to have made provision for a contingency of this kind.

Lode mining was not an industry either in this province or in the Dominion when the protective tariff policy was adopted, hence the effect of a tariff in relation to it could not be provided against, and our mining industry has never been put on a parity with the other industries because it was born too late to get its share of the spoils.

Evidence of choking and tariff drain. Now, as to the tribute exacted from us by the working of the tariff, due, in some measure, to the isolation of the industry and its environment, and its great distance from the manufacturing and supply centres of our country, 2,200 miles from Toronto and 2,400 from Montreal, so that when we are not paying a tariff of 25 per cent. and upwards, we are paying a protection price, and a long haul freight bill.

In the year ending June 30th, 1903, the Province of British Columbia paid to the Dominion Government, \$2,417,117.84 in customs duties alone, and in other revenue \$528,213.59, making the payment for the year (excluding internal revenue) \$2,945,331.46. Vide Tables of Trade and Navigation Returns for 1903, page 75.

The province's own revenue for the same year amounted to only \$2,044,630, so that the Dominion Government exacted from the province \$900,701 more than the province exacted for her own uses.

The Dominion exaction amounted to \$14.40 per head per annum, based on an estimated population of 204,463.

The Provincial exaction amounted to \$10 per head per annum on the same population. (Vide Dominion Year Book, 1903, page 560.

Based on accurate Census returns for 1901, which gives a population of 178,657 persons to the Province of British Columbia, the amount per head contributed to the Dominion Government in that year was \$14.16 on the total revenue of \$2,530,366. (Vide Census Report No. I, and Tables of Trade and Navigation for 1901, page 36.)

Rossland, with a population in 1901 of 6,159, plus the sub ports of Trail and Paterson, with an estimated population of 1,200, making a total of 7,359, contributed a revenue to the Dominion Government of \$134,444.87, or \$18.96 per head. (Vide Census Report No. I, and Tables of Trade and Navigation for 1901, page 36.)

The above comparisons serve to show that Rossland, a purely Gold Copper Mining Camp, contributed over 33 per head more to the Dominion Government than the average of the whole province.

The following comparisons will serve to show that the Province of British Columbia contributed 240 per cent. more than the average of all the other six provinces.

Census Year, 1901.

Province.	Population.	Revenue paid to Dom. Gov't.	Amount per Head.
British Columbia. . .	178,657	\$ 2,530,366.20	\$14.16
Quebec. . . . .	1,648,898	10,692,014.99	6.48
Ontario. . . . .	2,182,947	10,929,053.17	5.00
Nova Scotia. . . . .	459,574	2,096,739.25	4.56
Manitoba. . . . .	255,211	1,018,880.67	3.99
New Brunswick. . . .	331,120	1,152,327.31	3.48
Prince Edw'd. Isl'd.	103,259	148,438.16	1.43

Vide Census Returns, vol. 1, year 1901, pages 2, 3, 4, 5, as to population; Tables of Trade and Navigation as to revenue, year 1901, pages 23 to 39 inclusive.

The above comparison shows the Province of British Columbia paid the Dominion Government \$10 2-6ths of a cent per head per annum more than the average paid by the other six provinces, or

\$ 7.68 per head per annum more than Quebec.

9.16	"	"	"	Ontario.
9.60	"	"	"	Nova Scotia.
10.17	"	"	"	Manitoba.
10.68	"	"	"	New Brunswick.
12.73	"	"	"	Prince Edward Island.

According to Census returns in 1901, we represented slightly less than 3 1-3 per cent. of the entire population of the Dominion, and yet we contributed over 8 1/2 per cent. of the revenue, excluding internal revenue, and independent of the indirect revenue paid at other ports, but repaid by the consumers at the mines. In other words, while we form only one-thirtieth part of the population we contributed slightly less than one-eleventh of the revenue.

The foregoing clearly shows how burdensome a protective tariff is on a country trading in raw products, and how extremely exacting it is on the mining industry.

The prime difficulty with British Columbia is that its destiny is controlled by two forces, the Dominion and Provincial Governments. The former have adopted a tariff policy which has the effect of sapping the life blood out of the chief industries of this section of the Dominion, imposing a burden intolerable, a barrier to progress insuperable, operating as a wet blanket on all the efforts of the Provincial Government to develop the resources of the country.

Admitting that it may be adapted to the agricultural and manufacturing Eastern Provinces, it is most detrimental to a country winning raw products, and especially minerals.

It is admitted that the aforesaid policy is justifiable as a measure of self-protection and self-preservation.

It is also acknowledged that it is impossible to devise a uniform tariff equitable to all, but it is not impossible to equalize by compensatory refunds or subsidies.

While our subsidy of eighty cents per capita from the Dominion Government is on a parity with that of the other provinces, our contribution in customs revenue alone is in the disparity of \$14.16 for this province as against an average of \$4.15 for the other six provinces. Many may suppose that we get a refund of this excess from the Dominion Government in disbursements made by them on public works. A statement prepared by the Provincial Government in an appeal for better terms from the Dominion Government, shows that since our union in thirty-two years we have contributed \$49,397,238, and have had expended by them \$32,454,382, a balance to our credit of \$16,942,856, out of which \$13,274,511 was contributed in the last ten years.