

Hon. gentlemen, while speaking in French, I was alluding a moment ago to the fact that the opening up and development of the North-west Territories and the province of British Columbia were due to the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. From its inception this great enterprise was conducted with the utmost energy and foresight, and no one need begrudge the large sums of public money which were voted to help build the road. But while all will always unite in wishing a continued and increased prosperity to the company and the introduction of measures conducive to that end, such measures should be accompanied with provisions whereby the interests of the people may be efficiently protected.

The Marconi invention, as applied to wireless ocean telegraphy, may yet offer elements of uncertainty and it may be premature to say what it will accomplish. It has, however, been very successfully employed for shorter distances, and the action of the government in securing the use of the system is, in my opinion, worthy of commendation.

I am not surprised at the good results obtained from the display of Canadian products at the exhibitions which took place last year. When I had occasion to visit the Exposition at Paris in 1900, I felt that the care taken by the Minister of Agriculture in making this country better known abroad could not fail to give a powerful impetus to its trade and commerce.

The expansion of the general business of the country of late years may, in my opinion, be exemplified by a few figures which I take the liberty of laying before this House. First of all, if we refer to the imports, we find that in 1890 they were \$121,815,241. In 1895, there was a small falling off, and the imports were \$110,781,682. In 1897, the imports were \$119,218,609; in 1899, \$162,764,308, and in 1901, \$190,415,525. The exports show a still greater progress. They were as follows:

1890..	\$ 96,749,149
1895 ..	113,638,863
1897 ..	137,950,253
1899 ..	158,896,905
1901 ..	196,487,632

If we refer to statistics applied to some of the individual industries, we find remarkable results. For instance, the mines have

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made great progress, as will be seen by the following figures:

1880....	2,877,351
1890....	4,855,757
1895....	6,983,227
1889 .....	13,368,150
1901 .....	40,367,683

Of course the increase, especially during the last year, was due in a great measure to the development of the Yukon. If you take the items under the headings of animals and their products we find that the exports amounted to:

1880 .. .. .	\$17,607,577
1890 .. .. .	25,106,995
1895 .. .. .	34,387,770
1899 .. .. .	46,743,130
1901 .. .. .	55,495,311

In the items of manufactured home products, I find the following. We exported in

1880 .. .. .	\$ 3,242,617
1890 .. .. .	5,741,184
1895 .. .. .	7,768,875
1899 .. .. .	11,706,707
1901 .. .. .	16,012,208

If we refer to the imports, free of duty, which are the basis in a large measure of our home industries, we find also very important figures. We have in

1880 .. .. .	\$15,712,000
1890 .. .. .	\$34,516,000
1895 .. .. .	42,140,000
1897 .. .. .	40,433,000
1899 .. .. .	59,709,000
1901 .. .. .	71,308,000

There are other items of considerable interest, which show also a large degree of progress. In bituminous coal, we imported in

1890 .. .. .	1,530,020 tons
1895 .. .. .	1,596,668 tons
1901 .. .. .	2,683,706 tons

The importation of hides for the manufacture of leather shows also a very remarkable increase. The imports were in

1890 .. .. .	\$1,712,012
1895 .. .. .	1,966,620
1901 .. .. .	4,120,443

I might refer to the importation of tin plate used for canned goods. It appears that from 1895 to 1901 the imports increased from \$260,000 to \$543,000. The wood pulp exported to Great Britain in 1894 amounted to \$178,255, and to the United States, \$368,875, or a total to the two countries of \$547,130. In 1901, the export to Great Britain had reached \$934,722, and to the United States, \$937,330, or a total of \$1,872,052, showing an enormous increase.