

The Fallacy of "Free Food" Exposed

But if the policy of an adequate protective tariff built up industries in this country and created a demand for labour, and that demand fostered high wages it is manifest to anyone that **the National Policy must be given the credit, after all.** It therefore behooves the young men of today, and especially those who depend for their livelihood, upon the honest toil of their hands, to meet and combat this latest Free Trade heresy. They must combat it because it constitutes an attack upon the policy that has made Canada the most contented and prosperous country upon the face of the earth; and because if adopted it means for them eventually, low wages, and lower standards of living.

FOUR TIMES IN THE PAST HAVE SIMILAR ATTACKS BEEN REPELLED.

Four times in the past have the farmer, the workingman, and the manufacturer stood shoulder to shoulder, and repelled the attacks of the Free Traders upon the citadel of the National Policy. By promises of cheap food, the workingman must not now be beguiled into the camp of the common enemy. The great interests of the nation are so united and inseparable, that agriculturists, artisans, and manufacturers will prosper together or languish together. Any legislation that will visit injury upon one, is dangerous to the others.

The question of the high cost of living is one that challenges the best consideration of any government. **No party has the right to make of it a stepping stone to political power.** But if it must be made a political issue, for its solution, then the people must choose between a party on the one hand, that for more than thirty years has been huffed about by the waves of every known economic and tariff heresy; and a party on the other hand that has ever been consistent in its economic teachings; the party which gave us the National Policy—the bed-rock, upon which rests our national prosperity.