

Great Britain bought from us grain to the value of \$22,244,890, while from the United States she bought \$160,000,000. A tariff preference for the Canadian grain would very materially change these proportions. Our present trade with England in meats, exclusive of bacon, is very small, a mere fraction of that enjoyed by the United States, and this trade also would be stimulated by the proposed five per cent. preference. The one product in which we already lead is cheese. Canada stands to gain in export trade by the adoption of the Chamberlain scheme.

But there is a difference between the standpoints of the Canadian and the Chamberlain imperialists. It is, generally speaking, the Canadian view that Great Britain should grant us a tariff preference in return for that which we have already granted her; while it is apparently Mr. Chamberlain's desire that in consideration of the new preference Canadians shall buy largely from Britain, and shall not enter into further competition with British manufacturers. It is this phase of the scheme which greatly lessens its popularity in Canada. Partly because of our geographical position, partly because of more frequent travel, and in some cases because of the superiority or greater adaptability of the goods, Canada buys more from the United States than from Britain, and will probably continue to do so. The temper of the Canadian people, moreover, is more and more strongly for home production. Not to buy either in the United States or in Britain what we can make ourselves is the growing purpose of a nation ambitious for its own industries, and so far from yielding an inch to the demands of British producers there is a sentiment in some quarters in favor even of withdrawing the present preference. The preference will likely stand, however, if Britain reciprocates, but as for giving up our industrial interests for the British producer's sake, it is out of the question, and will never be agreed to. So much Mr. Chamberlain may depend upon as Canada's attitude toward his policy.

A Record Apple Crop

THE two great crops in Canada are the wheat in the western and the fruit in the eastern provinces. The yield of apples is this year a particularly heavy one, and fruit-farmers are marking it down as a record season. Fully 13,000,000 bushels, or one-quarter of the total production of America, have been gathered. Apple culture may thus rank as an industry in itself, of national proportions. In one district alone, the famed Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia, the crop is estimated at half a million barrels, produced in an area of about eighty miles in length.

The apple crop in Europe is this year a partial failure, and the demand for Canadian fruit in the cities of England, Scotland, and Germany is for that reason heavy. Prices are ruling high, and as the quality of our apples is fortunately as good as the quantity is great, the farmers are receiving in most cases very handsome returns. The two chief shipping ports are Montreal and Halifax, the former ranking close with New York. So great has been the activity among the buyers and shippers this fall, as the result of a record crop, that the barrel manufacturers have been unable to keep up with the demand, notwithstanding that an enormous quantity of fruit has been used up in various ways at home. The apple is one of Canada's great assets.

Post-Office Prosperity

CONSIDERABLE political capital has been made out of the administration of the Post-Office Department, in which for the past four or five years a large expenditure has been involved. From an independent standpoint, however, it is but fair to say that the affairs of that department have been managed on a business-like basis, though it is also to be admitted that there are many details connected with the postal service in which reform is desirable. The postal business is one of the most important of national affairs. It has, perhaps, made the greatest progress in England, where the telegraphs are conjoined with the postal