

England very much more than the people of the United States sell per head. Our policy has been justified by its results in every direction. Commercially it has been a success. Politically it has been a success. It has shown the people of the United States that we are able to live and thrive wholly independent of them, although I am not disposed in the slightest degree to underrate the importance of extending our commercial relations with the United States whenever they show a disposition to meet us on equal terms. More than that, I say that our policy has placed Canada in the foreground as the one colony of Great Britain which has shown a keen appreciation of the advantage of the British market, and a disposition also to meet England half way and to extend to her reasonable privileges in consideration of the enormous mass of our goods which they take from us to our great advantage, and I hope to theirs. Compared with the total volume of trade of the United States, it is perfectly clear that the people of Canada have more than double the trade and commerce per head than the people of the United States possess, our population being five and a half millions, with a total trade and commerce of \$382,000,000, while the population of the United States is 75,000,000, and their total trade \$2,275,000,000, or in other words our total trade per head is \$70 as against \$30 on their part.

Election Frauds.

Turning to another subject, I have observed that on all occasions when our Conservative friends have been guilty of any particular iniquities, the very first thing they do is to raise a howl and charge their political opponents with having been guilty of those identical offences. In fact it has become so much their habit that whenever I hear a Conservative politician or journal cry "Stop, thief," I feel an inward desire to have the fellow seized and searched, and I am perfectly sure that in such cases you will find his pockets full of stolen goods. I notice that these worthies are continually bringing charges against the Liberal party of the grossest corruption and malfeasance in the conduct of their elections, and in particular have of late brought very serious allegations against the Liberal Government with respect to their conduct in the matter of two recent elections in West Huron and Brockville, alleging that they have been guilty of the most nefarious practices—of ballot-stuffing and various other iniquities at the polls. Let me point out one thing to you. The Government at any rate had very little to gain or very little to lose, as far as the elections in West Huron or Brockville were concerned, and it would not have appreciably affected their majority, which ran to something like fifty in the House, whether these seats were won or lost. There was, therefore, no temptation whatever to enter into any such felonious compact as our political opponents assert for the purpose of securing these two elections. Now, I do not want you to suppose for one moment that either I or the Government of Canada desire in the slightest degree to minimize the gravity of the offence committed by any party who may be guilty of tampering with the ballot. I regard that as one of the highest crimes that can