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## Prize Debate.

(The Medalist's Speech.)



THE question under debate this evening is one of very great importance to Canada, especially in view of the proposed Reciprocity Agreement between this country and the United States.

By Reciprocity in general is meant an agreement between two nations conferring equal privileges as regards customs, or charges, on imports or in other respects; and by Unrestricted Reciprocity is meant an agreement whereby all duties on the imports and exports between the said countries are abolished.

Time does not permit to trace in detail the Reciprocity history of Canada and the U.S., but it is sufficient to refer to the treaty of 1854. Canada's commerce received its greatest impetus, and under its provisions there followed a remarkable expansion between the two countries, an increase of social intercourse, and an advance in the direction of a community of interests.

We admit at the outset of this debate that the treaty of 1854 was not unrestricted, but, nevertheless, many benefits were derived from it, and my colleague and myself will endeavour to prove this evening that benefits would likewise accrue to Canada from a treaty of Unrestricted Reciprocity with the United States.