

where advances are made on warehouse receipts.

The round about and expensive method of selling our furs to France is now followed for our timber.

Mr. Laureys, who has given this matter careful study, states in his report on the Canadian Train, to the Montreal Chamber of Commerce:

France principally purchases from Canada alimentary products, cereals, canned lobster and salmon, sugar and dried apples. France could buy many others, that Canada exports such as preserved fruit and vegetables especially tomatoes; notwithstanding formidable local competition, (as whole tomatoes from Canada are greatly prized) and the Canadian peach for its taste is preferred to the American peach. It is also true that other products such as pork, ham, cheese, condensed milk, must come in through foreign channels, especially through British intermediaries.

At the present moment, even at the actual rate of exchange there is a market for Canadian lumber (Douglas fir, pitch pine, birch, maple, ash and cherry). It should be possible to export now all lumber for veneering and cabinet making, certain firms are ready and willing to try them.

What has been said about the effect of the Train in stimulating exports to France can be applied to Belgium. It has immediately and decisively increased our sales to that country. The statistics of our monthly exports to that country for 1922-1923 will show that conclusively, if one bears in mind that the Train went to Belgium in November, 1923:

	1922-23	1923-24
July.....	\$1,714,993	\$1,578,252
August.....	703,461	1,241,980
September.....	1,139,041	648,101
October.....	1,478,202	946,905
November.....	2,493,494	1,472,211
	\$7,529,191	\$5,887,449
Decrease:	\$1,641,742.	
	1922-23	1923-24
December.....	\$ 933,069	\$1,837,191
January.....	153,412	1,534,499
February.....	869,648	2,292,348
March.....	397,566	1,717,973
April.....	245,809	698,679
May.....	1,023,535	1,151,778
	\$3,623,039	\$9,232,566
Increase:	\$5,609,529.	

Thus for the five months which preceded the coming of the Train, every month except one showed a loss as compared with the same month of the preceding year. In this period of five months we had lost ground to the extent of \$1,641,742. In opposition to this, in the six months which followed the circuit of the Train, every month shows a substantial

increase. In the second period we have not only stopped the decline, but turned it into a gain of \$5,609,529.

The enquiries gathered in Belgium numbered 396 and were classified as follows:

Foodstuffs.....	117
Wood, its products and by-products.....	71
Furs, hides, leathers and manufactures.....	33
Fibres and textiles.....	42
Minerals and their products (other than iron and steel).....	19
Iron and steel and their products.....	44
Chemicals and allied products.....	21
Miscellaneous commodities.....	49
	396

What has been stated as to the advantage of extending our trade with France is true of Belgium. She is our sixth best customer. May I quote the above report of Mr. Laureys in a brief reference to Belgium:

Canada sells to Belgium grain, specially wheat and oats, sugar, milk products, canned fish, asbestos, agricultural implements and other articles for lesser amounts.

Besides these, Canada should directly export to Belgium, flour of wheat, fruit, eggs, honey, salted and smoked meats, and also semi-manufactured industrial products, which do not compete with local manufactures, especially wood pulp and flax fibre. We could further sell live cattle imported in large quantities from the United States and Argentina, furs, etc.

Finally, what has been accomplished in the field of general propaganda? To fairly answer this query, it becomes necessary to examine with some care the rather voluminous extracts of newspapers and reviews which could be obtained and preserved. No doubt a great mass escaped our diligent efforts. Such as they are, they fill the 9 bulky volumes laid on the table of the House. A computation of these articles published by newspapers and reviews, both French and Belgian, totals up to no less than 2,112 newspaper columns of gratuitous and most effective publicity, of which 603 columns appeared in the newspapers and reviews of Paris. If it is true that advertising in the form of news items is by far the most profitable, it is not easy to overestimate the value of this propaganda. Calculated at the lowest rate of ordinary advertising, the use of these columns would have cost Canada at the very least \$100,000. The computation of these articles has been laid on the table of the House. I think I can safely affirm that it contains all the organs of each one of the many cities visited by the train in both countries, and besides quite a number of important newspapers published in many countries of Europe, the United States, and even in remote lands such as China, Africa and South America.

May I also call your attention to special numbers of important French reviews: Science et Industrie and L'Exportateur Français, devoted exclusively to Canada, published by reason of the interest created by the Train in Canadian affairs, and widely circulated in France. Over 3,000 copies of these reviews were distributed gratuitously in France.

It is worth mentioning that many of these articles bear the signatures of foremost statesmen, such as Prime Minister Herriot, Mr. Camille Chautemps, Minister of the Interior, Mr. Gabriel Hanotaux, the well-known statesman and member of the French Academy; of many eminent journalists, such as Mr. Paul Delombre, Mr. Grosclaude, Pierre Veber, François Vuillot, Maurice Prax, Jules Corréard, Paul Gauthier, Guénard-Hodent, etc.; of prominent senators and members of Parliament: Senator Menier, the King of Anticosti, and a warm and ever useful friend of Canada; Senators Raphael George Lévy and Edouard Néron; Mr. Géo. Gerald, Mr. Maurice Ajam; and many, many others.

May I be allowed to quote short extracts from a few of these articles dealing with what has been accomplished, not only in direct stimulation of our commerce, or even in general propaganda, but in the higher sphere of international relations. The first article from which I desire to quote was written by an ex-minister of France, a great journalist, an economist of world-wide reputation, Mr. Paul Delombre, and published in the weighty Parisian organ *Le Temps*:

The Canadian spirit, loyal to Great Britain as well as faithful to France, and the Canadian influence, may do much to prevent or remove deplorable misunderstandings. When the commercial relations between Canada and France improve, as there is reason to hope they will after the double effort of the Canadian Mission, the outcome will be not only the happy economic results. There will be a careful interchange of intellectual influence and a better and more intimate understanding between England and France. Canada with its splendidly growing population, seems more and more a wonderful bond of union. This is what the Canadian Mission has helped us to more clearly understand, and for that we wish to extend to it our best thanks.

Mr. Juillard, prefect of La Seine, in welcoming the Canadian delegates to Paris, concluded his remarkable address by these words:

May the precious seed, so carefully laid, bring forth abundant yields in the future—May the Exhibition in its appearance destined to trade only, but nevertheless animated by thoughts highly useful to civilization, strengthen liens of natural sympathies, which day by day are getting more vigorous.

May I add the closing remarks of the stirring oration delivered by Mr. Herriot, Prime Minister of France, upon the occasion of the reception of the Canadian Mission at Lyons:

You have come to France; you are working for the economic and material development of your country, placed as it is in the neighbourhood of a great nation, who by a formidable power of attraction draws to itself all the young forces. You are a country who with too few inhabitants are obliged to administer and to bring into value an immense territory endowed with all the advantages of nature and with all the gifts of human activity, and we can, foresee the immense place you are to take more and more in the composition of the great British Empire who is seeking solidity and peace.

At the close of the war, we can see the importance which Canada is to assume in that great discussion which is to open in the autumn, and which is to be, I feel convinced, one of the most important events of the present time. But, in the name of those sacrifices, so nobly and so courageously assumed, it is your part, in these tragic hours, to turn to the two nations of whom you are the friend, and remind them of their duty; to call upon Great Britain and France to walk hand in hand. This is your mission to which you apply at the same time your intelligence and your heart. And that is why your nation, in appearance so small but in reality so great, appears to us about to play a very considerable role in the future, that is opening—and that is why maternal France, who forgets no one of her children, she who reserves a great share of her tenderness for those who came, in the hour of need from countries far away, who drew near to her heart to defend it against the dagger of the assassin, she the France of peace, salutes you with all her heart and soul.

This magnificent and stirring piece of eloquence brings to my memory the heartfelt wish expressed at Rennes, by Mr. Rio, then Minister of the Merchant Marine:

May the wide ocean be not the great void that divides, but the great highway that unites.

A last word: everywhere the Canadian delegates were earnestly besought to bear testimony upon their return home to what they had seen and heard. For three months their travels had covered the whole of France and kept them in intimate contact with all classes of its people. As Mgr. Landrieux said with ringing eloquence, from the pulpit of his Cathedral, "They had for months heard the very throbbing of the life of France and nobody could more knowingly stand witness for her—the truth need not to be said to confound her detractors."

I am glad now to offer my testimony to this honourable House, and through it to the country. France has two main preoccupations: to restore her homes and to protect them. To restore them the Hun must be forced to pay; to protect them, the Hun must be constrained to respect the Peace Treaty. For this double purpose France has mustered her grim resolve which will know no falterings and accept no denials, whichever of her sons she may choose to speak for her. The relaxing of her firm hold would mean the prompt releasing of the furies of war. And after the honour, integrity and safety of her homes, France cherishes peace more than any