

meats of all kinds, flour, cereal foods, dressed lumber and other finished products.

They have brought in a free list as long as your arm, and propose to let the Canadians send these articles into their country without the payment of a cent of duty, and they are not even asking for anything in return.

The fact of the matter is, both the Republican president and the Democratic Congress know that their political lives depend on their taking off the duties and making things cheaper for their people.

Both political parties in the United States are now eager to please the people by taking off duties.

That being the case, what is the need of giving them our market?

If they are now willing to admit free of duty, and without any concession in return, so many things for which there was no special demand from their people, do you for one moment believe that they would not have admitted without any concession in return Canadian farm products for which their people clamoured in order to reduce the cost of living?

To me there seems no doubt about it. They certainly would.

Of course we should not blame the Americans for making the best trade they could. It was up to them to get a free market in Canada for their farmers if they could, even if they had intended all the time to let our products into their country without any reciprocal concession from us.

No, we should not blame the Americans.

But what about those who have hurriedly and prematurely, and as now appears so needlessly, agreed on behalf of Canada to despoil the Canadian farmer of his home market?

To say the least, they were too hasty.

If they had only waited they would not have done it. They would not have let the American farmers and the farmers of twelve other nations into our home market.

It seems to me, though, that the well-known record of Uncle Sam for bargaining and getting the best of the trade should at least have made them suspicious—have made them hesitate and come back for consultation.

But they did not, and now it is very apparent that they made a very poor trade.

So poor a trade, as I have said, that if it had not been made when it was it would not be made now.