

war, had prorogued after singing "*God Save the King*", without giving a thought to such measures as could have helped the manufacturers, labourers and consumers of Canada to face the terrible crisis which confronts the country.

On his arrival in Canada, Mr. Donald meets our manufacturers and offers them good bargains; but their calculations are not yet made. Finding that prices may be higher here than in the United States, he suggests an export premium to be paid by the government in order to make up the difference.

He has an interview with our minister of Commerce, member of the Imperial Commission appointed three years ago to enquire into the natural resources of the Empire and promote inter-imperial trade. In Sir George Foster he finds "a remarkably shrewd man, who saw the whole case and all its points". But the minister says he is powerless and can do nothing till parliament is called again in four months' time.

### Why wait four months ?

"Four months' time!" says Mr. Donald. "In four months' time Canada may have lost her chance to get the trade that the Germans have lost. The United States is not so slow. They started their representatives for England immediately after the outbreak of war with patents and samples of stuff with which they hoped to replace articles formerly supplied by Germany. They are certain to get a great deal of business.

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"Besides, why wait for four months instead of acting now and getting your working men at work that much earlier. It seems to me an idle waste of time when faced with an opportunity that will pass. Another argument used to me was that they could not borrow money at this time. That is ridiculous. If they have an acute stage of unemployment, they will have to borrow money anyway to tide over the depression. The better way is to coin Canada's own resources, and there is a market for it, if they are willing to take the necessary steps to get it. For example, suppose that a bounty of \$1 a ton was paid on exports derived from iron, that might be just the difference between being able to compete successfully with American manufacturers, and not being able to. On ten thousand tons I would say that at least \$250,000 would be expended in wages, so that as a result of such a small expenditure they would get a full return in extra taxes because of the new business, and save the expenditure of five, ten or fifteen times as much to meet the situation created by an enormous amount of unemployment."