

these items are things we could send to Italy, and we might well have a large trade, as the importation of these things in Italy is increasing.

And Italy's exports were, olive oil \$10,000,000, wines \$8,000,000, citrous fruits \$7,000,000, dried fruits \$8,000,000, silk \$18,500,000. All these are largely imported by Canada, and if we can make satisfactory reciprocal arrangements, which the Italian government is anxious to do, there is no reason why our trade with Italy should not be greatly stimulated.

England sends nearly all the coal to Italy, \$52,000,000 worth a year. There is no reason why our coal from the Maritime Provinces should not be laid down in Italy just as cheap as that from the mother country, and I believe the quality is sufficiently good for the Italian market.

Italian commerce is increasing enormously. In 1903 her imports were \$362,000,000 and in 1907 \$576,000,000. Her exports in 1903 were \$300,000,000 and in 1907 \$400,000,000.

Such is Italy commercially and agriculturally. For a long time, Rome, where our Institute is situated, has played an important part in the history of the world. In the middle ages she was mistress of the world, and to-day she is the seat of the greatest church of the world. And now in this material age she is to be the seat of an organization of the great agricultural industry of the world, which I, as Minister of Agriculture, am inclined to look upon as the most important industry of the world.