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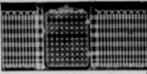
FREE BUS

study, said about two weeks ago: "Many of us must be pretty conseions that if the Luited States had been kind for Canada in the scitics it would be open to question whether Canada would exist today as a separate nation." I cannot remember how many years agos, perhaps about there was some talk about reciprocity treaty betuven Canada and the Cinited States and I felt vidently opposed to it. because I felt our that such a commercial union must soon lead to a political union. Today I have not the slightest thought of that kind. For two reasons, firstly, because of the difference in the conditions there was no preference in those days. Britain would have been separated from Canada by a high tariff wall. America and Canada would have been separated from Canada by a high tariff wall. America and Canada would have been separated from Canada by a high tariff wall. America and Canada, would have been separated from Canada, would have been separated from Canada, would have been separated from Canada, would have been suffered out in full. Secondly, in those days I was completely ignorant of Canadias sentiment. After living in this country for twenty years I know that there is practically no annexation sentiment in Canada, but a very strong feeling against it. Even the Americans who wettle among us seem to assimilate largely with us. Why should doing more lumineas with a country tend to make us want to give up our own nationality? No one dreams that the United States would want to annex us by force. Canada scens to be growing every year more free, more independent, more truly a nation, and I am rather proud to think that our farmers' work at Ottawa stimulated and strengthened the united national feeling of the Canadian people. Our farmers' tariff proposals seem to be in the best sense broad and statesmanlike. They would tend to build up a great Canada, free, prosperous, loyal to Great Britain, friendly with America, a splendid connecting link between the two countries.

George Langley, Maymont, Sask.—When the monster demonstration of farmers went to Ottawa to place their view of public matters before parliament the traiff was made the chief pount of complaint; both its principle and its incidence were denounced. I do not wish to discuss the abstract principle of tariff versus free trade, except to this extent—all tariff duties are prompted by seffishness, and the only possible defense is that selfishness may at times be justifiable. The main point of our complaint, however, was that in the incidence of tariff duties the farmers were being discriminated against, so that while the manufacturing interests was taxed by the operation of the tariff law, in their case it was merely taking money out of one pocket to put it back in increasing class were drained without getting any benefit at all, or in other words, the tariff law had become a means of extortion from the farmers for the benefit of the manufacturing interest. The fight that is being put up at the present time by the protected industries and the capitalistic class on their behalf is in reality the battle of unreasoning self-interest against justice. It shows that no matter how indefensible a vested interest may be, human nature is so strange a mixture that the grossest wrong will find champions, if the wrong has dollars in it. That individuals growing quickly rich by the process of keeping the mass of the people poor is looked upon as a proper thing by those, even who discourse at length on the responsibilities of human brotherhood, and this being so it follows that the only way to make sure that the issue of the battle will be on the right side, is for those who are the victims and sufferers to gird up their loins and make it understood that they are in deadly earnest. Every kind of pretense is being pressed into service against beating down the tariff wall detween the Dominion and our neighbors, can be summarised in the summarised of the real reasons for the fight, the protected interest are making, can be summarised in

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possible avenue of protest and appeal so that our influence may be felt. At present we have the issue out before usin a concrete form in the reciprocity agreement, which is being discussed at Ottawa by the federal parliament. It is an attempt to undo in some measure the wrong that the protective principle has done in the past, to open the avenues of exchanging the necessities of civilization between two kindred peoples. There are some of us who would like more than the agreement gives, but while this is true it is also true many are genuinely surprised that it two kindred peoples. There are some of us who would like more than the agreement gives, but while this is true it is also true many are genuinely surprised that it gives so much, at any rate the fact that it, proposes to make it-possible to exchange freely the natural products of the two countries gives to the producers of the Dominion access to the markets of ninety millions of people, a fact which in itself is pregnant with possible developments, all of them of the most helpful kind. The farmers of the West will be recreant to the duty they owe themselves and this Western country if they do not unite in an unanimous demand that the agreement be endorsed. Its adoption will be a departure in policy, making known not only to the whole of Canada our intention and determination that the West of this Dominion is going to be heard in shaping the policy of Canada, but it will be a notification to the world outside that the conglomerate population of this country is not going to study itself by any narrowness of policy even when mis-called imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism; that in fact we do not regard our imperialism as imposing upon us any duty of ennity toward the great free nation to the south of us. There has been we are all cognizant of it—a disappointment that the duty on implements has not been materially reduced, but this can for the time being wait, not as a matter abandoned but as necessity deferred, a matter toward which our efforts in the immediate future may be directed. No farmer in the West will rest content until the implements, so essential to Western farming, are freed from the unjust inpost at present placed upon them. But we shall be unwise to let our strong feeling on this matter interfere in any way with our support of the reciprocity agre

of the preferential duty. The farmers of the West will hail with feelings of the most complete satisfaction, the raising of the preferential duty from 33:1-3 per cent, to 50 per cent, and should this be opposed by the protected interests another proof will be given to the many we already have, that the patriotism of these gentry is only a cloak to hide the selfish purposes of the manufacturers. I am hopeful that at this juncture we will cast aside all party division and join forces to see that Western interests are served by the adop-tion of the reciprocity agreement.

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