

Suppose only a comparatively small quantity of that land is brought under cultivation, and our population of the Northwest increases to 5 million or 6 million, as it promises to do in a few years, it is easy to calculate what our wheat production will be. With population increased six times and wheat acreage 6 times, the crop will correspondingly increase. That will mean 750 million bushels of wheat in a year, within a few years; and it is not extravagant to anticipate in the not too distant future, a Canadian wheat crop of 1,000 million bushels. Our products of other grains in the North West, and other parts of Canada will increase with our wheat, and as we have now, we shall have an immense surplus for export. The population of the United States will be rapidly increasing, and its farm production decreasing, comparatively. So that the time is not far away when the United States will need from 200 to 300 million bushels of wheat from us, or some other country; not to speak of other produce. Will it not be an advantage to have that market open to us free of the onerous duties which have just been indicated? In regard to the settlement and development and enrichment of the North West reciprocity will have a big influence. Reciprocity will add largely to the value of every acre in the Canadian West. The United States farmer, tempted by the more fertile soil of the Canadian West, if he were assured of the United States market, being opened to him, if he settled in Canada, would create such a demand for Canadian wheat land as would rapidly raise the price.

#### General Benefits.

Thus the settlement of the country would be facilitated and the production of our soil many times increased. In the past three years we have increased in population by immigration 275,000, and at that rate we shall increase it 2 1-2 million in ten years, with a corresponding increase in crop production. Then we can and will, if we are assured of a large and convenient market, increase our production of articles that are now produced far short of our capacity. Mr. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, says the farmers of this province, if they put

themselves to it, can double the present output of their farms.

If the farmers of Ontario do that they will need a new market, such as reciprocity will open. And if they have the new and larger market the increase of production is made possible and probable. The benefits of reciprocity will not be confined alone to better markets and better prices, if it will stimulate increased farm and dairy production. Take the City of Peterborough of 16,000 or 18,000. If the surrounding country, composed of the best farming land in Ontario, were by more energetic farming methods, made to produce double what it does now and made to yield a couple of million dollars' worth more of produce, could such an increased production be made without touching and benefiting every bank, every merchant, every doctor, every lawyer, and every man in business in the city? And the farmers of Ontario can do it if they try—if they are encouraged by a prospect of a larger and more accessible and more profitable market. Last year Denmark, a little country that Ontario could put into its pocket, with about 2 1-2 millions of people, is an example of farming reduced to a fine art. In 1909, Denmark sent to the British market 34 million dozens of eggs; Canada sent to the same market 34 thousand. The same year Denmark sent to the same market a million and three-quarters hundred-weights of butter, and Canada, 22 thousand hundred-weights. Denmark, in 1909, supplied Great Britain with 1,809,745 hundred weights of bacon, while Canada only sent 443,386 hundred weights. In 1909, Denmark exported to all countries 2 million dollars worth of cream—and reciprocity gives us a 90-million market for cream, with the duty of 5c. per gallon removed. What is to prevent Ontario from doing likewise? Only one thing—not doing it. If we have a larger market for the articles in which Denmark excels, we will be encouraged to double our output, and, in this way, put farming upon a higher plane, add to its profits and, through the prosperity of the farmer, stimulate and strengthen every interest of the community. I have not time, on this occasion, to enter into the details of the advantages of reciprocity, but can only treat of them in a general