

UNITED STATES TARIFF BILL.

New York Congressman Urges Closer Trade Relationship with Canada, Mexico, Central and South America.

Hon. William Sulzer, of New York, N.Y., speaking in Congress recently on the Tariff Bill about to be passed, made a stirring address calling for the insertion of a clause in the Bill which would culminate in the opening up of freer trade with Canada, Mexico and South and Central America. The remarks of the Congressman from New York showed a high conception of true patriotism and his views were those of the type of statesmen too seldom heard from in the Republic across the border. There is undoubtedly a stronger feeling of affection growing up between the two countries; and the strengthening of these bonds combined with a freer commercial relationship is the best surety of peace on this continent that could be desired.

Mr. Sulzer said in part: "Whilst there is still time and before the pending tariff bill is finally completed, I desire to reiterate the hope that something will be done to bring about closer political ties and freer commercial relations with our neighbors on the north—the Canadians—and with the progressive people of our sister Republics, in Mexico and in Central and South America. Here is the true field, it seems to me, for our legitimate expansion of trade, for broader markets, for our industrial endeavours, and for our commercial extension. Good business foresight in the enactment of this tariff legislation will mean more and more commercially as the years come and go to our producers, to our merchants, to our manufacturers, and to all the people of our country.

A Grave Mistake.

Not a thing has been done for its accomplishment, and I am frank to say it is a grave mistake. We either attempt to go too far afield on the one hand, seeking trade at great expense in distant lands, or we display a lack of business knowledge and exhibit a narrow provincialism on the other hand, declining trade at our doors, that is as detrimental to our best interests as it is deplorable in our statesmanship. Canada, Mexico, Central and South America are our neighbors and our real friends, and they should be our best customers; and they would be our best customers if we only had the commercial sense and the political wisdom to deal with them aboveboard, in the spirit of trade equality, and treat them fairly and reciprocally along lines mutually advantageous.

Fast Disappearing Opportunity.

The statistics conclusively show that this trade at our very doors is growing more important and becoming more valuable every year. European countries are doing their best to secure it, and the facts prove that they are getting the most of it at the present time, very much to our detriment and to our disadvantage. Why will our people always be blind commercially to their own interests and to their own greatest opportunities? Why spend millions of dollars seeking trade in the Orient when the commerce of the Occident—richer than the Indies—is knocking at our door? Let us obliterate the obstacles, tear down the barriers, and open wide the doors to welcome the commerce of North and South and Central America, on land and sea, ere it is too late and the opportunity to secure it be lost forever. Now is the accepted time. These countries are anxiously awaiting the outcome of our deliberations. They are watching the enactment of this tariff legislation. They long for some evidence of our friendship and sincerity. They want to trade with us. They will meet us more than halfway. Shall we disappoint their most sanguine expectations? Shall we ignore this most valuable trade, these great commercial opportunities, and give these splendid markets wholly and entirely to Germany and to England and to France? I trust not; and so I say again that I hope, ere we adjourn and the pending tariff bill becomes a law, there will be written in it a broad and a liberal reciprocal pro-



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vision for open markets, freer trade, and unrestricted commerce between the United States and all our sister countries on the Western Hemisphere.

I believe President Taft is friendly disposed to the proposition and will not be disappointed if the tariff bill contains a provision for an expansion of our trade with our neighbors to the north and to the south.

In connection with the expansion of our trade and commerce to our north and to the south, we should provide for adequate steamship service on the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Closer Relationship Urged.

The people of these countries to our north and to our south are the true friends of the people of the United States; they look to us for protection, for sisterly sympathy, for a reciprocal exchange of products; they need our help in their industrial progress; they desire our aid in the marketing of their exports; they appeal to us for financial assistance in the development of their great natural resources; and their resources and their products are greater and richer than those of countries far away across the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans. We should aid them in their struggle for better conditions. We should extend to them a helping hand in their onward march of progress. We should glory in their prosperity. Their success is our success. They are rapidly forging to the front; their exports and their imports are increasing annually; their trade is becoming more and more important, their commerce more and more valuable; and instead of closing our doors by prohibitive tariff taxes against these countries and their products, in my opinion, we should open them wider and do everything in our power to hasten closer political ties and facilitate closer trade and commercial relations.

FACTS ABOUT CANADA.

In a neat little booklet, "Five Thousand Facts About Canada," Mr. Frank Yeigh, the well-known travel lecturer, has stowed away some information that will prove invaluable to the man learning business and public affairs. In fact, it will be found a wonderful help to all Canadians and those interested in the country, and furthermore, could be circulated for immigration purposes to advantage. Travelling from coast to coast as Mr. Yeigh does, it will naturally be felt that he should have a wide grasp of Canadian affairs, and no doubt is in a unique position to publish such a work.