

It is believed in some quarters that the new Canadian Tariff law may stimulate reciprocity between the Dominion and this country. Just who it is that believes it we don't know, but it is somebody who has great faith in political platforms.—Philadelphia North American.

No one in Canada entertains any belief or desire that the new Canadian tariff will contain any feature looking to or stimulating reciprocity between Canada and the United States. Any suggestions of that character must come from Washington, and even then the sincerity of it would be seriously questioned. Canada's new tariff **should** be of a two-fold sort: of a friendly character for **commercially** friendly nations, and of a retaliatory description for **commercially** unfriendly nations. They may choose for themselves out of which dish they would be served.

Exporters to Japan must bear in mind that on October 1, new regulations relating to the production of certificates of origin will be rigidly enforced in that country. According to these regulations business firms wishing to enjoy the benefit of special trade arrangements recognized in the customs duties law of Japan must furnish proof of the fact that the goods they are importing are the product or manufacture of the locality to which special conventions are applicable, except on postal matter and goods, the dutiable value of which does not exceed 100 yen. The proof must be furnished by means of a certificate of origin by the Japanese consulate or commercial agency at the place of production, manufacture, or shipment of the goods, or where the Japanese have no such consulate or agency by the custom house or other government of public office or by the chamber of commerce of the locality. The certificate of origin must show the marks, numbers, descriptions, number of packages, weights and measurements of the goods and the place of manufacture. All goods which are not accompanied by the necessary certificates at the time of their clearance through the custom house at the port of entry, will be liable to the duties of the statutory or maximum tariff.

The German postal department has recently introduced a card of identification for the benefit of the travelling public which will prove of great utility to travellers. Upon the card or folder is printed its number, the date of its expiration at the end of the year, the name, profession and residence of its owner, the date of its issue and the seal of the postoffice issuing it. Within the fold is pasted a small unmounted photograph of the owner. A small cancellation stamp is pasted partly upon the photograph and partly upon the page. Opposite is a description of the applicant, his general appearance, color of hair and eyes. His birthplace and age are also given, and he is required to sign the card. The last page of the little folder describes the uses to which the card is to be put and the means of obtaining it. The fee is 50 pfennigs (12 cents). The card is to be used in obtaining mail where the owner is not known, and in case he changes his appearance so that he no longer conforms to the description a new card must be issued after proper identification of the applicant.

The complete reports of the Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in London last month are extremely suggestive. In parliaments of this sort there will always be too much talk about some subjects and too little about others. Agendas are apt to be overloaded; and insufficient compulsory condensation of remarks is exercised early in the proceedings. This Congress, which is the nearest practical approach to deliberate Imperial Federation yet devised, should sit longer than three days. It is supposed to take no longer to thrash out, once in three years, commercial policies for a world-wide empire, than is necessary for a body of artisan co-operators to settle their common affairs once a year. It is ridiculous that resolutions, for the elucidation of which some delegates travelled thousands of miles, should be disposed of in a few minutes because of lack of time to discuss them. The delegates from all over the world must have spent thousands of days in journeying to and from the Congress. It is no economy of time to occupy so much in travelling, and so little in **turning it to account**.—Monetary Times.

The great question now before **the country is that of** the control of the corporations. Speaking broadly, the issue involves an effort on the part of the human race to find a safe and reasonable balance between unrestricted and wasteful competition on the one side, and the tyranny of what the London Times calls "omnipotent, uncontrolled capitalism" on the other. There must be somewhere a golden mean between uncontrolled competition which means wasteful, disastrous trade wars and the operation in its harshest aspects, of the law of the survival of the fittest, and uncontrolled monopoly which means tyranny and oppression. Socialism seeks the destruction of competition and the merging of monopoly into a state of public ownership of the agencies of production and transportation. As against this the experiment is being tried, upon a grand scale, of government regulation, in order to preserve an even balance between the two extremes of competition and monopoly. But regulation involves the evil of centralization of power in the federal government. It is a hard question to settle. It involves the most intricate and deepest of economic problems. The greatest students of political economy are divided in regard to it. Nevertheless, this stupendous issue, the solution of which makes for the weal or woe of countless generations to come, is really subject to the decision of the sixteen million voters of the country.—Wall Street Journal.

The barometer of trade in Western Canada is the business in agricultural implements. Current reports are to the effect that the farm implement trade in Western Canada during the present year is likely to exceed all previous records. It was said recently that there had already been an increase of from 50 to 150 per cent. over the business done a year ago. The influence of this great growth of agricultural activity is far-reaching, extending to other industries which the great natural resources of the country support, and reaching also to further railroad developments, which in turn open up other new opportunities for trade and industry.