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SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

The High Commissioner to England is now the most representative Canadian protectionist. As such the manufacturers of the Dominion would like nothing better than to see him installed in the Premiership. He is the last active, powerful survivor of the men who made the National Policy a fact; who trained this country in the truths of protection; who formed the legislation which has been so fruitful of good. He was the trusted colleague, the great assistant of Sir John Macdonald, the fighting, aggressive force in the combination of men who swept the country in 1878. Since then his record has been one of consistent, continuous exertion in the best

interests of Canada. He was Minister of Railways and Canals long enough to start the Canadian Pacific Railway on its path of triumph, and to make its success almost certain. To him, perhaps, more than any other single man, this country owes the creation of that great link of national and Imperial union, that vital factor in the development of Canadian trade and commerce. To him, as Minister of Finance in 1887-8, we owe new developments in the protective tariff, and a determined honest effort to build up our iron and steel industries. To him, as High Commissioner, we owe much of the recognition which has in recent years come to Canada, and much of the position which this country has assumed in England as one of the pivotal States of the Empire, and a land of acknowledged resources and vast possibilities. His constant efforts at spreading broadcast throughout Great Britain information concerning the Dominion; the high personal standing which he soon attained and which added such force and value to his innumerable speeches about Canada and Canadian interests; his vital services in connection with the Imperial Institute, the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and every other function or local concern which might help to make the Dominion better known; his labors—unsuccessful in the end, but none the less strenuous and able—on behalf of Canadian cattle; his work for a commercial union of the Empire, and a British preferential tariff in favor of the colonies; have combined to form a record of services which the Canadian people could only fittingly reward by the highest gift in their power. To him, also, the industries of this country owe much for the brave and vigorous effort which he made in 1891 to prevent the success of the Opposition and its wild policy of commercial union, or unrestricted reciprocity.

Sir Charles Tupper is, therefore, peculiarly fitted at the present moment by his distinguished record, his great reputation and his devotion to Canadian interests, to act as leader of the Conservative party. And this is said without any desire to injure the position or minimize the services of Sir Mackenzie Bowell. The latter, in his own way, has done prolonged and useful work, and if he can still unite the party and lead a strong government to battle, he will merit all the support we can give him. But such a result seems very doubtful, and it may, therefore, soon be the duty of Conservatives generally not only to reflect upon the situation and urge their leaders at Ottawa to merge personal jealousies and minor issues, but also to unite upon the strongest man in sight—the man who embodies to our people the National Policy in all its various branches of protection, and railway, and cable, and steamship development. Sir Charles Tupper would be a fighting, aggressive leader. He would carry terror into the Opposition camp, and the very chance of his having the opportunity to do so has already shaken up the Liberal press into a position of mingled fear and invective. He would be a strong leader—one whom his colleagues would respect and serve under without constant private dissensions and public differences. He would be an experienced, cultured leader, such as our political life requires, and such as only the wide field of British public life fully develops. He would, finally, be so well known in Great Britain, and so posted in all that concerns our mutual relations, as to constitute in himself an important factor of the present critical position in the international relations of the Empire. The opinions held by the High Commissioner ought to be well known and are sufficiently illustrated in his work and record.