

I notice with reference to these figures of foreign trade that the balance of trade against this country in its last year's operations is \$90,567,876. That is taking home products and home consumption alone into account. It would be better for us if instead of this being an adverse balance of trade, it were a favourable balance of trade. Argue as you please as to what off-sets that adverse balance of trade in the way of unseen imports and exports let that be what it may; it is yet fair to say that so far as possible we ought to strive to reduce the adverse balance of trade against this country. The only way we can reduce it is by exporting more and making more in the country itself. The first criticism upon that state of things, namely, the large increase in our imports as compared with our exports, leads one to ask why the policy of the country should not bring it about that more should be made in this country by the people of the country out of the resources of the country, and consequently less imported from abroad, with the result that more would be had to export abroad and the present adverse balance of trade would be reduced. Smile as much as we like, or look as wise as we like, and we often do both to conceal our lack of knowledge, we cannot get away from the fact that as far as possible the trade policy of a country should aim at stimulating the productions in that country itself out of its own raw material or out of raw material imported from abroad, employing its people, building up its homes and adding to the wealth of the country. Whatever we can make in that way in Canada with Canadian labour and with Canadian capital we ought to aim at doing, and so import relatively less and so have less of an adverse balance. I find in connection with the United Kingdom that our

favourable balance of trade is \$44,146,518. That looks good, but it is not as good as it ought to be. When we come to the United States of America, what do we find? We find that last year we imported from the United States \$217,500,000 worth, that we sold to them \$104,000,000 worth in round figures, and that there was an adverse balance against us of \$113,000,000 odd. In our commerce with France we have an adverse balance of \$7,500,000, with Germany an adverse balance of \$5,869,000, and that with all foreign countries we have an adverse balance. We add all these up and after subtracting from the result the favourable balance of our trade with the United Kingdom, it leaves us, as I said, \$90,000,000 to the bad, as the adverse balance in our world trade.

Well, the sooner we can remedy that, and the more we can remedy it the better. There are some rather striking things in connection with it, and I want to speak of them just here. It is a striking thing that with reference to certain food products of this country, Canada is getting very closely to the point where she finds it difficult to supply her own people, and she is fast leaving the point of large exports to foreign countries and especially to Great Britain. It rather stunned me when I made a calculation of the figures this morning. Take these exports. Of eggs in 1900 we exported \$1,450,000 worth. In 1910 we exported only \$41,766 worth.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Hear, hear.

Mr. FOSTER. But the highest record year was in 1902 when we exported \$1,733,242 worth.

The comparison in these products is shown, in round numbers, in the following table:

Article.	EXPORTS.		
	1900.	1910.	Record Year.
Eggs.	\$1,450,000	\$ 41,766	(1902) \$1,733,242
Butter.	5,000,000	1,000,000	(1906) 7,000,000
Cheese.	19,800,000	21,607,000	(1903) 24,712,000
Meats, bacon and hams.	12,700,000	6,800,000	(1903) 16,000,000
Beef and mutton.	223,000	117,000	(1901) 819,000
Canned meats.	309,000	193,000	(1905) 3,500,000
Pork.	45,009	48,780	(1904) 446,507
Total of provisions.	40,000,000	30,000,000	(1903) 54,000,000
Live animals.	12,000,000	12,000,000	
Total of animals and their products.	56,000,000	53,000,000	(1903) 69,000,000

From this table the House will see that there is a very great falling off in our exports. A ready answer to that, but not

a satisfactory one, would be that we are consuming more of these ourselves, but is it a fact that we are satisfied not to have