

4.—MEASURES OF CAPACITY.

Metric denominations and Value.			Equivalents expressed in terms of the Standard of Canada.
	Cubic Metres.	Litres.	In Imperial gallons and decimal parts of an Imperial gallon.
Kilolitre	1	1000	220.2443
Hectolitre	$\frac{1}{10}$	100	22.0244
Decalitre	$\frac{1}{100}$	10	2.2024
Litre	$\frac{1}{1000}$	1	.2202
Decilitre	$\frac{1}{10000}$	$\frac{1}{10}$.0220
Centilitre	$\frac{1}{100000}$	$\frac{1}{100}$.0022

THE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE WOOLEN INDUSTRY.

A few months ago the Canadian Manufacturers' Association appointed a committee to consider the effect of the preferential tariff on certain Canadian enterprises, and at the annual meeting in August a resolution of a perfunctory character was passed favorable to the preference, with the proviso that the minimum tariff should be high enough to afford adequate protection to Canadian industries.

It is evident that a rebate of one-third the duties imposed upon British merchandise has not served to transfer the purchases of Canada of articles of iron and steel from the United States to Great Britain, for, as has been heretofore shown in these pages, out of more than ten million dollars worth of certain articles of that character purchased by Canada in 1899, less than thirteen per cent. came from Great Britain, and more than eighty-seven per cent. from the United States. The fact is, and it cannot be disguised, taking into consideration all dutiable imports, despite the tariff preference our purchases from Great Britain are becoming smaller by degrees, while our purchases from the United States are increasing in even greater ratio.

But the Canadian woolen industry is a fearful sufferer because of the tariff preference. Under the previous conditions our woolen manufacturers found their industry fairly well protected. They were obtaining a reasonable return upon their investments, they were giving occupation to large numbers of employees, they were paying good wages to labor, they were supplying consumers with fabrics than which there was none better, and at reasonable prices, and their mills required all the wool Canadian farmers could produce. But the tariff preference has spoiled all that, and the woolen manufacturers are facing the fact that unless something is done to avert the calamity, they will have to go out of business. Under a thirty per cent. tariff their industry was fairly prosperous, and if it is to again enjoy that prosperity, either the tariff preference as affecting woolen goods must go, or, if the preference is to be maintained, the duty must be increased to say forty-five per cent.

Time was when the Canadian Manufacturers' Association took active interest in such things, and when, after a thorough digestion of any matter affecting the welfare of such an important industry as the manufacture of woolen goods, should a recommendation be made to the Government in the matter, it would be promptly recognized. The strength of the organization lay in its unshorn locks which bound together the different interests of the members, the unanimity with which they stood shoulder to shoulder in defending and supporting their

common interests, and in declining to consider merely local affairs. Time was that should such a condition as now presents itself regarding the woolen industry been brought to the attention of the Association, as it would have been, very quick and decided action would have been had, and in no uncertain tones the Government would have been informed that every manufacturer in the Association, and all the influences they possessed, were as one in the defence of their imperilled industry.

Is it so now? Hear what The Toronto Globe says about the recent action of the Association:

The report throws a good deal of light upon the question of the feasibility of a mutual preferential arrangement between Great Britain and the colonies, which in a sort of formal way the Association approved. Here are men who clearly think that a reduction of one-third on the general tariff is quite enough, and ought to be safe-guarded in various ways. What would they say to the removal of the entire duty, without which the question of a reciprocal preference would not even be considered? It is in vain to say that free trade is not essential to such an arrangement, but that by some commercial miracle a plan could be conceived which would please everybody. When a public man in Great Britain says that the free importation of British goods into Canada would be an essential part of any plan of mutual preferential trade he is not merely insisting on a theory. He means that there must be an assurance that British goods will be imported into Canada in far larger quantities than at present; and this, again, means the displacement, not only of American, but of Canadian goods. The intention of a mutual preference is to substitute, to a certain extent, colonial or Imperial trade for foreign trade. It is useless to enter upon the consideration of the subject with a hazy notion that we can keep a certain trade for the Canadian manufacturer, and hand over the same trade to the British manufacturer.

We do not observe that any general meeting of the Association has been called, or is even in contemplation, looking to that "united action" in behalf of an imperiled industry, which sentiment was its foundation stone at its inception in 1876. Why not? The woolen manufacturers, realizing that their industry is in an exceedingly precarious condition, held a meeting in January at which more than forty mills in Ontario alone were represented, at which such well-known men as James Kendrey, M.P., George Pattinson, James Wiley, E. J. Dufton, W. D. Van Egmond, W. R. Brock, M.P., J. P. Murray, James Stouffer, G. D. Forbes, J. B. Henderson, J. F. Morley, C. R. H. Warnock, and a number of other Ontario manufacturers, and also a number of others representing the industry in Quebec, at which preferential trade and its injurious effects upon their industry was discussed, the object being to endeavor to induce the Government to render some relief. Alluding to this meeting The Monetary Times says: "What chance of success they are likely to have, the presentation of some known facts may aid in the formation of an opinion. The question was fought out at the late election and decided in the negative. The leaders of the protectionist party, at the head of which was Sir Charles Tupper, attacked the preferential policy of the Government, during the campaign, making the increase of the amount last session one of the principal charges against the policy of the Government"; and declares that "the manufacturers did not appear prominent in this opposition to the policy of preference."

In other days the woolen manufacturers could always be found standing side by side in advocating and maintaining