

time, being an average increase of \$10,790,436 in one year, or an increase in the five years of \$53,952,181. While the expenditure increased at this enormous rate, our population was almost at a standstill. From 1871 to 1881 it increased only 19 per cent, and from 1881 to 1891 the increase was only 11 per cent, so that there is no proportion between the increase of taxation and the increase of population. But the present Government, from what we know transpired last session, is a Government that exists for the benefit of the manufacturers. The manufacturers seem to control this country. Previous to last session, the Government felt bound to yield to the force of public opinion to the extent of sending out some of its members to find from the people what they wanted. The prompt answer was: We want reduction of taxation, and the Government resolved to try and do something to please the masses. Therefore, the Finance Minister, in his Budget speech, made many changes. But all these changes disappeared, and the tariff was brought back to near its former condition at the representations of the manufacturers. I will just read from the report of the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association a few extracts which will bear out what I say:

The object of the association was to devise ways and means to prevent their industries being crushed out of existence by unfair competition of those in other countries engaged in similar industries, and that the association has been a strong factor in Dominion politics ever since, is the best evidence of the necessity for its existence; and we congratulate ourselves that in Sir Mackenzie Bowell we have a Premier who is in close touch and sympathy with us, and in whose hands our interests will be safe. We are assured by him, and by his colleagues, that in the future, as in the past, protection to Canadian industries will be inscribed upon the banner under which they will fight the political battles of the country.

What has been done for the manufacturers, or what the Government has enabled them to do, may be gathered from the census returns:

Capital invested	\$353,836,817
Value of manufactured products.....	475,455,705
Cost of raw material.....	\$255,983,219
Wages paid	99,762,441
Total	\$355,745,660

Therefore, \$353,836,817 capital invested in one year makes a clear profit of \$119,710,045, or between 33 and 34 per cent. It must be borne in mind that many manufactories which existed long before the National Policy was established are still in existence, and doing good work without receiving any benefit from protection. Some of the manufacturers, however, under the National Policy, must have made enormous profits. We know that the manufacturers of coal oils make a profit of 110 per cent. The

value of coal oil brought into this country was \$420,575, and the duty was \$466,163. The Government had come to the conclusion to do something. They knew it was necessary, and they came before the manufacturers and asked what could be done—how much reduction should be made. The Government knew that tariff reform was wanted, and in this opinion were no doubt confirmed by the reports of certain members of the Government, and the Controllers who had visited different parts of the country and found a general desire that the tariff should be reduced and that combines and monopolies should be checked and prevented taking such large sums of money unjustly from the toiling masses of this country. At a meeting held in Toronto the Government sounded a note of warning, when a member said they were prepared to cut of the mouldering branches. But very little was done in that direction. In the speech made by the Controller the other evening, he said the increase in the duties in the last ten years was only 1 per cent. I figure out the difference in duty, and find that 2.72 per cent is the difference between the tariff in 1893 and that now in operation. So that it does not make very much difference, after all the great effort to make a reduction. Further, the organ of the manufacturers says:

It was evident, however, that some changes in the tariff were imperative, and that, if they were not inaugurated by the friends of protection, the Government could not survive, and that the enemies of protection would accede to power. It was under these circumstances that the Tariff Committee entered upon their labours, having the counsel and assistance of many of the most experienced members of the association, the result of which was an embodiment of their views in a communication to the Finance Minister (a copy of which is here before you), which elicited from him a kindly letter, in which he alluded to it as a well-prepared brief, in which all the matters therein discussed had been done full justice. Perhaps it might be going too far to even surmise the effect these recommendations of your Tariff Committee to the Minister may have had in the final arrangement of the tariff; but it is but an act of justice to the committee to direct attention to the large number of changes that were made in the tariff along the lines suggested in the recommendations, and that, in many instances, the language used is substantially identical.

It goes on to say:

The association has just reason for congratulating itself upon the influence it possesses in assisting to mould public opinion in the matter of affording tariff protection to our manufacturing industries, and in shaping the laws of the country in conformity thereto. There never was a time since the formation of this association, twenty years ago, that its influence was stronger or more pronounced than now. The personnel of its membership, now greater than ever before, is of the highest standard, and composes a glorious array of patriots, who are making this Canada of ours the one of the most important nations