

progress that has been made in the various industries of different kinds all through the country.

The increase of the duty on flour from fifty cents to seventy five cents per barrel will be of great benefit to Canadian millers, while it will not materially affect the price of the article to consumers. The milling capacity of the country is so large, and competition so keen that there can be no corresponding raise in the price of flour, while at the same time it will also benefit wheat growers. Canadian farmers and stock raisers are also to be benefitted by increased duties upon beef, pork, lard, etc. There is no reason why Canada should not raise all the meat required at home, and in addition to become

a large exporter of meat, and it was with the view of drawing the attention of the country to this, and of fostering our meat producing industries, that the Government came to the conclusion to protect the interests of the farmers by raising the duties on certain of their products.

Included in the free list are mining machinery, and materials and equipments for entering into the construction of iron and steel steamships, where such things are not made in Canada. In our opinion, if it is the wish of the Government to encourage the erection of works in Canada for the production of such things, the way to do it is not by rendering it impossible to do it. We regret that Mr. Foster did not see his way clear to recommend an increase in the duty on pig iron, raising it to at least as high a figure as that of the American tariff. The experiment of a low duty has been tried and failed—it is not a duty for protection in any sense of the word, but rather for

revenue only. In following pages will be found these tariff recommendations in full as offered by Mr. Foster, as they appear in the official report. It should be remembered that this is not a proposed new tariff, but the changes proposed in be made to the old.

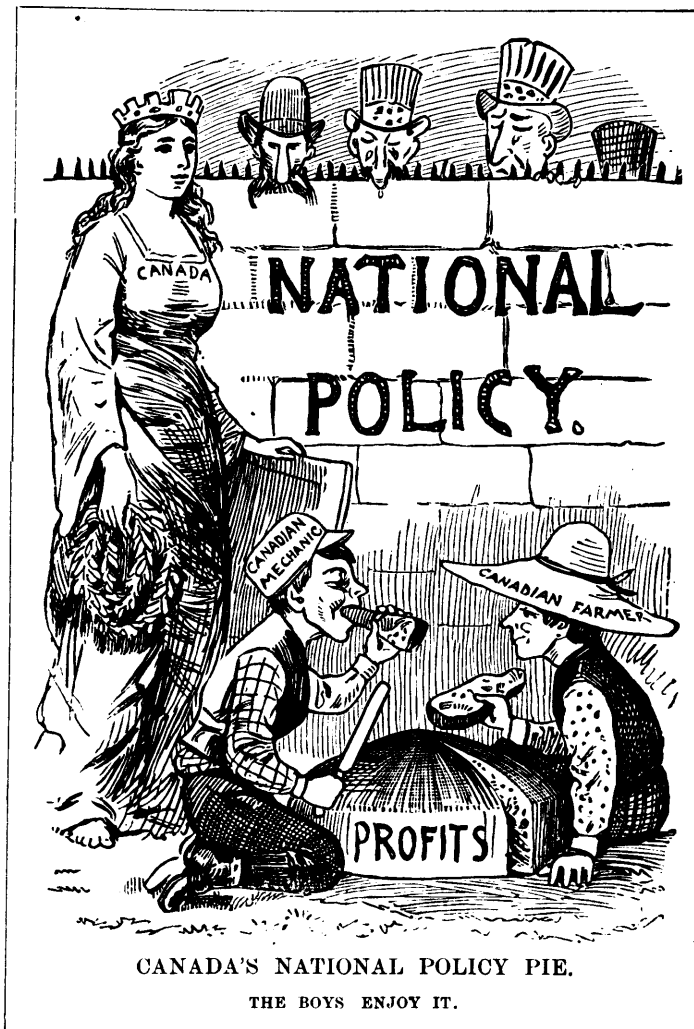
#### A KICKING MACHINE.

It will be remembered that in the recent discussion in the Dominion Parliament anent the free importation into Canada of American corn, the *Toronto Mail* laid great stress upon the action of the Ontario Central Farmers' Institute in demanding

that corn be thus admitted. The *Mail* endeavored to show that this Farmers' Institute was composed of leading farmers of the Province, and that their sentiments were adverse to the imposition of duties upon imports. We have frequently shown in these pages that there are no more enthusiastic supporters of our National Policy than Canadian farmers; and we have also shown that these political gatherings called "Farmers' Institutes" were not composed generally of farmers at all, but of sore headed and disappointed political hacks with axes to grind. Possibly some of these politicians may have cabbage patches in their back yards, on the strength of which possessions they pose as horny handed sons of the soil, who make

their living by the sweat of their brows following the plow or driving the festive manure fork; but they are really not agriculturists.

That sensible farmers should remonstrate against the *Mail* and other Grit papers endeavoring to show that Canadian farmers are not in accord with the Government on tariff matters is not surprising; and the *Mail* has published a communication from one of these in which the writer declares some obvious truths. This tariff farmer in his letter denounces as "bosh" what some of the Grit members said on the corn question; for that while there may be cases where men with small farms may require more feed than they have grown, and that to get corn in free might just suit their cases for the time being; yet the rank and file of Canadian farmers do not want American corn imported free to compete with their coarse grains. He says: "Farmers are hauling oats from twelve to fifteen miles and selling them



for twenty-six cents per bushel, and peas at forty-five cents; these certainly do not want to see American corn let in free. It may be all right for Mr. McMullen and others to move for the free admission of American corn, but let them say that it is in the interests of drovers, livery stable men, etc., and not say that it is in the interests of the farmers, because such is not the fact. A very great deal of the agricultural literature we see is written by men who are not farmers."

This farmer correspondent of the *Mail* tells about the sort of men who run these "Institutes." He says that at a recent meeting in Toronto of the Central Farmers' Institute he observed that among the foremost men in the meeting were