

to Great Britain in favour of the United States? Why should she do so in view of the fact that for a decade or more she has sold the bulk of her products to the mother country? Reciprocity, if attainable at all, must conform chiefly to those articles and products wherein this country does not compete very largely with Great Britain in the Canadian market. These would mainly consist in the natural products of the farm, the mine, the forest and the sea. A limited number of manufactured goods might be more freely exchanged, but the number would be small. Canada is just as much calculated to develop great manufacturing industries as the United States, and her national life will most assuredly require the same variety of interests. Indeed, one effect of the present tariff policy is to drive American industries over into Canada. Almost every day we read of the establishment of a branch factory in Canada of some British or American concern. This tends to give further employment for Canadian workmen. Instead of Canada becoming a mere exporter of raw materials, she is thus enabled to convert a reasonable proportion of those materials into manufactured goods. This fact has not escaped the observation of public authorities in the United States. For example, the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labour has recently sent out to the business men of that commonwealth a pamphlet calling attention to the manufacturing opportunities that now exist in Canada. The *Boston Herald*, in commenting upon this leaflet, says that the dissemination of such facts is a necessary result from the narrow and exclusive policy which has been pursued by the dominant political party of the country for so many years. The editorial further states that "unless the force of public opinion can bring about a change in the present fiscal policy of the national Government, so far as this policy stands in opposition to the establishment of freer trade relations with the Dominion of Canada, we shall witness a gradual drying up

of our local industries for want of adequate markets, with the exportation of American capital and possibly American labour to this foreign country at the north of us for the purpose of their developing industries which, under more favourable fiscal conditions would be easily developed within our own borders." From a purely Canadian standpoint, therefore, it is difficult to see why the *status quo* in this respect is not beneficial to Canada. Judging by the strength of the public opinion that is now demanding an increase of the Canadian tariff, there is evidently a very large body of Canadians who cherish the same belief. Whether a limited measure of reciprocity with the United States would tend to build up the manufacturing and industrial interests of Canada at a greater pace than is going on at the present time, is an open question. Certainly the chief benefits to be derived from such a treaty either by Canada or the United States would be distributed more widely among other elements of their population. The great bulk of the people in both countries are engaged in occupations which are not affected in any material degree by purely industrial activities.

But if reciprocity ever should become a feasible question, a further query will arise as to the best method of attaining it. Shall it be by a treaty mutually binding for a certain period, or by concurrent legislation in each country, or by a system of maximum and minimum tariffs? If a treaty be framed it must necessarily be referred to the United States Senate for approval, where it will probably undergo the usual process of haggling and emasculation. In addition, such a treaty is liable to be construed by one party in one way and by the other party in another way. The more powerful country is apt to resent the construction placed upon the treaty by a smaller nation. If they cannot agree on the terms friction or international bickerings are likely to ensue. Great dangers are likely to lurk behind such a treaty unless the spirit and temper of the two peoples is immensely changed.