

only answer attempted has been to sneer at those who decline to take the risks involved. No answer other than the sneer has been attempted to the statement by President Taft, Mr. J. J. Hill and others that the result of reciprocity would be to prevent a closer union between Canada and the Empire, and to give to the United States the trade which, without reciprocity, would flow between Canada and Great Britain. No answer, other than a statement of the Government's intentions, made in extremis, has been given to the contention that Canada would be ultimately forced to extend the scope of the agreement so as to include manufactures and other things. The evidence of the public men and press in the United States and the natural result of such an agreement made by 8,000,000 people with 90,000,000 prove that Canada should not take the risk involved. Upon the national questions involved the evidences and arguments have been unanswerable. Upon the economic questions the Government have shifted ground and have involved themselves in absurd contradictions and dilemmas. They launched the agreement upon the theory and for the avowed reason that the farmer and food producer would obtain larger markets and higher prices. They are now appealing to the consumer for support on the ground that he will obtain his food at lower prices. The catch-ery of a 90,000,000 market has been shown beyond question to be absurd, and that, instead of a larger market, with higher prices, our own splendid home market would be opened not only to the United States, but also to thirteen other countries and all the colonies of the Empire, and that keen competition with our farmers and food producers would be the result.

The Government and their forces now utter the despairing cry, "Give the agreement a trial, and if it does not prove satisfactory let it be repealed." In urging such a course to prevent defeat the Government are regardless of the injurious disturbance of trade which would ensue by a trial and repeal. They entered into the agreement without knowing its full effect and without consultation with the people. They were willing to take all the risks involved, and they now ask the people to take the risks. The people will not do so.