

meet the season's needs as to have caused a stringency that has sent money up to panic prices at a time when general business is prosperous beyond precedent and crops are being moved to market that will add hundreds of millions to the financial resources of the country.

Gananoque has been *en fête* this week. The manufacturers and merchants of both political parties of this thriving town having invited the Honourable Mr. Tarte to a banquet, he spent last Wednesday in visiting the factories and enjoying a trip on the St. Lawrence, which is very beautiful opposite to Gananoque. The banquet was attended by all the prominent citizens of the town and district, and was a great success.

The Honourable J. Israel Tarte has been taking the practical course of visiting various towns, where he has made a personal inspection of the manufacturing establishments, and learnt their special requirements, and generally of those of the industries of Canada. He made a vigorous speech at Gananoque in favour of a protective tariff, and the much-needed improvements in transportation. His speech was received with great enthusiasm that was very flattering and gratifying to the Minister.

In proposing the toast of the Parliaments of Canada at the banquet tendered to the Hon. Mr. Tarte at Gananoque, Mr. R. Wilson-Smith, who is interested in one of the industries of that town, made a somewhat novel suggestion which may be worthy of consideration. In the course of his remarks he said: "Protection is not a party question in this Dominion; it is a fiscal version of 'Canada for Canadians'; it is patriotism, not partisanship." He then went on to show, from statistics, how the business of the country had developed, and said that adequate protection in its general features, equal to that of the United States, was a necessity. Further, he suggested that two tariffs might be established, one a maximum against the world in general and a minimum for those countries that wish to trade with Canada on a fair basis. That, in fact, the United States be allowed to largely determine the terms of their trade with our country, and, if Americans wished to come in on the minimum tariff basis, Canadians would be delighted. Many, he thought, might naturally object to this suggestion, inasmuch as it would abolish the preferential privileges given to Great Britain, but the preferential tariff was embarrassing to both countries and had many unsatisfactory features. The bonds of an empire required much stronger strands than the brittle thread of a preferential tariff.

In regard to Imperial defence as one means of more effectively consolidating the Empire. he thought a scheme might be devised by which the end in view may be gained in another way to any yet proposed, that is, by setting aside a certain proportion of the revenue derived from customs duties paid upon imports from Great Britain, and devoting it to the cause of Imperial defence. For instance, the funds might be applied to the support of one or two regiments of Imperial troops in Canada; a portion contributed towards the Navy, and for placing our own militia upon a proper defensive footing. A policy of this character was one which could be carried out by every colony of the Empire, and he believed that a solution of the most important problems now before the people of the Dominion could be formed on the lines of such a policy.

The currency system of the States makes no provision for such times of expansion as occur each fall. It is like a steam engine boiler with the safety valve weighted down to stand only a moderate expansion, so that, when extra power is needed, the pressure becomes too great for the boiler, so the safety valve has to be re-adjusted amid excitement and alarm. The Canadian currency boiler, so to speak, is built to work smoothly and safely under a pressure considerably in excess of any maximum hitherto experienced or probable; its capacity automatically adjusts itself to the varying requirements of the machinery of the country's business at different seasons.

The United States at present is comparable to a farmer who is such a bad financial manager that, when his crops are ripe, he has no money to pay for their gathering and no means to cover the cost of sending his products to market because he invested his funds regardless of the need he would have for them during and after harvest.

The increase of violence in the coal district may be fairly judged to be indicative of a crisis having arrived in the strike situation. Men who are confident of victory in such a cause would not be likely to engage in such criminal acts as alienate public sympathy. Miners who have gone to work have been waylaid, assaulted and disabled. Mining machinery that was resuming activity has been destroyed. Such violations of the peace are disgraceful to the authorities, they are a breach of the fundamental principal of the American constitution which declares the right of every man to pursue a free course in the pursuit of happiness, how much more each man has a right to earn his bread freely,