

to study the commercial history and present position of Great Britain and Germany to see how important in the development of commerce such an industry may become.

MR. WILLIAM WHYTE, second vice-president of the Canadian Pacific, got very enthusiastic the other day when he reached Montreal. According to an interviewer he said that 80,000 American farmers went into the Canadian West in 1909 and that 100,000 were expected in 1910. We doubt the accuracy of his statement and the wisdom of his prophecy. He would have been more nearly correct had he said that 60,000 people, including women and children, changed their allegiance from the U. S. to Canada in 1909. This would be about 45,000 farmers, 16,000 farmers' wives and 19,000 farmers' children. On the same ratio between the groups, based on immigration statistics, there will be 55,000 farmers cross the line this year, bringing with them twenty-one thousand women and twenty-four thousand children. The migration northward is so steady and so magnificent in volume that it should not be exaggerated. Perhaps it was the enthusiastic newspaper man who exaggerated in this case and not Mr. Whyte.

The wealth added by these newcomers totals a fabulous amount. Some would bring little; some would bring much. Putting the average at \$2,000, the total would reach ninety millions. There are responsible people who say that \$2,000 is a low estimate. But we prefer to be conservative, and to be satisfied with the assertion that the migration northward in the year 1909, added one hundred million dollars to the wealth of Canada. Can you grasp the significance of this?

LAATEST echoes from the British General Election indicate that the Unionists think they have won. The Government still has a majority, providing the Nationalists remain neutral. Mr. Winston Churchill steps into the limelight and says, "We must march on the enemy's guns." Every prominent Liberal is keeping a brave front to the enemy, and breathing continued threats against the House of Lords. On the other hand, the Unionists declare that the Liberal Party will find itself unable to reform the Lords or to pass any other legislation, unless they seriously modify their proposals. In other words, if Lloyd-George and Winston Churchill remain prominent in the Liberal Party, the Unionists will continue to fight against any kind of radical budget and against any kind of radical reform of the Lords.

This determination to resist radical measures is bravely expressed in an article in a recent issue of *The Outlook*, the leading Unionist weekly. The closing sentence of an editorial labelled "After the General Election," runs thus:

"But it may interest the various groups whom Mr. Asquith has brought into coalition to know that, whatever else may happen in the new parliament, there will be no legislation under a Liberal Administration—nothing but electioneering for another General Election."

WHAT is the real difference between a moderate-protection policy and a modified free-trade policy? Britain is said to be a free-trade nation, but their customs collections amount to \$170,000,000 annually. Canada is said to be a protectionist nation, and it collects \$50,000,000 a year. Population considered, our customs duties are only twice as great in annual volume as those of Great Britain. Continuing this mental arithmetic, if Canada collects customs dues which are equal to \$10 per head of the population, Great Britain collects customs dues equal to \$5 per head of her population. Is it fair then to label Canada "protectionist" and Great Britain "free trade?" Is it fair to condemn Canada to obliging on the fiscal question simply because she collects \$10 per head of her population instead of \$5 and

because her duties are levied on a large number of articles instead of a small number?

Great Britain is drifting towards higher duties; Canada is drifting towards lower. Great Britain is impelled by old-age pensions to provide an extra fifty million dollars annually, in addition to increased naval expenditures. These two items are bound to grow, and as surely as they grow so surely does Britain drift towards higher customs dues. On the other hand, Canada's revenues are growing faster than her ordinary expenditures. The surplus for the fiscal year ending on March 31st, will probably amount to thirty millions of dollars. This will be almost enough to meeting her extraordinary capital expenditures.

SOME of our English subscribers think that the Courier is quite astray in its attitude towards the German scare. One writes: "I read your article on the German situation and thought it quite mistaken." Another sends us the leaflet which is found reproduced on this page and declares that he can vouch for the truth of it. As this gentleman is a business man of high standing, we cheerfully publish his opinion. Incidentally in his letter he makes a strong plea for

spectacular action on the part of Canada. "What we want is an immediate Imperial demonstration in force." He believes that if the Germans realised that the British Daughter Nations stood solidly behind the Mother Country, they would hesitate about going on with their naval programme. "Surely Canada from her wealth can spare a few million dollars for this purpose. It will show the world that she is in earnest and show us in England that she is not selfish."

These letters from our English friends are welcome and we can but regret that our opinions do not coincide with theirs. This idea of an "Imperial demonstration in force" appeals strongly to us, but we believe that Canada in undertaking to extend her dry docks, instal ship-building plants, and starting out to construct eleven war vessels is doing all that is necessary under the circumstances.

HIGH prices of meat are receiving much attention in both Canada and the United States. People are trying by the boycott system to compel meat-sellers to lower their prices. We doubt the success of such a movement in Canada though it may succeed in the United States. One reason of high prices here is the extravagance of the consumers. They refuse to buy the "cheap" cuts. They want only the tid-bits. Hence what they buy costs them more. Another reason, probably more potent, is the rapid growth of urban population

and the slower growth of rural population. The farmer produces the food for those who live in the towns and villages. When he produces too much, prices drop; when he produces too little, prices go up. Why should he not have the same right as the manufacturer to curtail production if he thinks it in his own best interest? Is there any power to compel the farmer to produce more?

The *Canadian Farm*, a weekly agricultural paper published in Toronto, gives a comparative table showing the prices charged by the supply houses to the butcher, by the carcass, during the past seven years. In 1903, beef was selling at \$6.40 a hundred, in 1905 at \$5.92, and last month at \$8.42. Pork has similarly increased in value from \$7.90 to \$11.90, and mutton from \$8.00 to \$11.25. This tremendous increase must be due to inadequate supplies. The city-dweller's misfortune is the farmer's good luck.

Perhaps the safest statement in connection with this question would be something like this: Canada has not yet learned how to live economically or to produce cheaply; the same characteristic is seen in town and country, in agriculture and in manufacturing. Wages are too high, manufacturers' and bankers' profits are excessive, and the farmer is getting too much for what he produces.

SAMPLE BRITISH ELECTION LEAFLET

GENERAL ELECTION 1910

IMPERIAL MARITIME LEAGUE.

FOOTER AND THE NAVY

BACKS!

Backs alone don't make a Football Team,
Nor "Dreadnoughts" alone a Fleet.
We Want More Dreadnoughts,
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL

Where are our Halves?
Scouting Cruisers in Home Waters:
Germany 40 to our 30

Where are our Three-quarters?
Destroyers fit for North Sea Work
Germany 86 to our 47

Where are our Dressing-rooms?
Dreadnought Docks in the North Sea;
Germany 6 to our 0

Half-time Refreshments.
The Liberals have Eaten Up our Reserve Stores
And have Not Replaced Them
Nor even provided sufficient Ammunition.

THEY have LOST us "THE INTERNATIONAL"

WHAT'S WANTED IS
A FRESH SELECTION COMMITTEE.
THEN

**VOTE FOR THE UNIONISTS
AND SAVE YOUR COUNTRY**