

It is argued that this trade pact will weaken the bonds which unite Canadian people to the Mother Country, and this is to be brought about by the "Americanizing" of our industries and commerce.

Perhaps no province affords a better illustration of the baselessness of such a fear than the province of British Columbia, and it should be admitted that if, under existing conditions, the people of British Columbia are loyal, there is no excuse for extenuation for any possible disloyal sentiment in any other province of Canada.

It may truly be stated that the chief industries of British Columbia have been developed by American capital. Any financial authority will state frankly that the investments of British capital which have helped Canada are confined almost exclusively to securities, debentures and bonds. Practically all of the speculative, investing and industrial capital is controlled from the financial centres of the United States. Yet no province of the whole Dominion is today so genuinely loyal to the Sovereign of the Empire, the British Flag and Institutions, as is British Columbia.

The two coast cities, Victoria and Vancouver, have a larger annual passing and tourist travel from the United States than the other cities of Canada. There is not a city in Canada where Americans more largely mingle with Canadian people than in Victoria; and yet it must be said without exaggeration that there is not today a city more loyal to the British Throne, Flag and Institutions in the whole of the British Empire.

We of the West know that the effect of business, commercial and industrial intercourse with our neighbors south of the dividing line means industrial and commercial prosperity for us and for them. We know, too, that we can meet in business, industry, trade, calling, profession and society without in a single sense affecting our loyalty to the institutions and to the flag under which we prosper.

There is not a solitary argument against reciprocity which will appeal to the thinking mind when one sits down and rationally analyses the whole economic system that will be advantaged thereby.