

During those four years Canada's national status has grown along much broader lines; Canada has at last really found its place amongst the nations of the world and is that leading star in what it pleased Sir Wilfrid Laurier to call the British Empire, a galaxy of nations. The establishment of legations in the United States, in France and in Japan and the establishment of legations by those countries in Canada, constitute a tangible and concrete evidence of Canada's unparalleled development.

Canada's stand at the league of nations; Canada's representation at the latest world's conference in London, so ably headed by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Ralston), is another tangible proof that Canada's word is heard and listened to in the council of the great nations. Canadians may well feel proud that under the able administration of the present government Canada's interests have been well advanced.

In the four great basic industries of Canadian national existence, marked progress has also been felt. The mining industry has developed in proportions beyond expectation; in the last year we find the exports from that industry to be \$30,000,000 ahead of those of the preceding year. Only an infinitesimal portion of our great mining resources has been tapped, and as time goes on, and so long as the mining industry is looked after with the care and attention which it has received at the hands of the present government, Canadians may feel sure that in the production of ore, precious minerals and minerals of all kinds, Canada will continue to make progress.

The development of our fisheries has, under the present administration, received such an impetus that it is now found desirable and necessary to place the fisheries under the care of a separate minister, and the government is to be congratulated upon having decided upon that policy so that that industry on our Pacific coast so flourishing and the Atlantic seaboard, known to the world, shall receive the care and attention to which they are so well entitled.

The products of our vast forests have increased by leaps and bounds; our lumber is marketed the world over, and the production of pulp and of pulpwood has in the last few years increased to over \$300,000,000. But especially in agriculture has the progress been marked, and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) is to be congratulated for the wonderful success which that branch of our natural resources has attained. Speaking for the county which it is my privilege to represent, the county of Wright, I feel that what

has been done in this connection has been well done, and that the great basic industry of agriculture has been well taken care of.

The legislation for which the present administration has been responsible was conceived for the purpose of assuring to that most important portion of our population the safeguard which it so well deserves. It is an indisputable fact that the majority of the working population, the one that produces the most effective results, is that which comprises the agricultural classes, and it is only proper that their interests should be adequately looked after.

It is a source of gratification to a vast portion of the Canadian people that this year's budget benefits to a considerable extent those who most need such measures. Amongst the many improvements which it contains the foremost one affects one of the primary commodities of everyday life; I refer to the abolition of the tax on tea produced in British dominions. Already, in this city and the neighbouring districts tea has decreased in price by some ten or fifteen cents per pound. The housewives the Dominion over and those whose duty and obligation it is to look after the welfare of the family will now feel that because of the wisdom of this administration a considerable burden of taxation has been removed.

Those who for years have paid income tax will find additional relief to that provided by last year's budget in that further exemptions have been granted with respect to dependents. This administration is to be congratulated upon having extended the exemption to parents and grandparents whose existence is dependent upon the head of the household.

I wish further to say that the Canadian people will be benefited because the finance minister has been able to reduce taxation and at the same time reduce by one half the sales tax. It only goes to show how much can be accomplished in the way of tax reduction by an administration that knows equally well how to administer in a business like manner the national affairs. I wish to lay stress upon the manner in which the Minister of Finance has been able to deal with the British preference. It was the doctrine of that great Canadian statesman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, that England should have a preference in tariff matters in so far as Canadian trade is concerned—that is, that England should be allowed to dispose in Canada of its goods under a lesser tariff than that applicable to foreign nations—and that it was only proper that the mother country should deal with its grown-up children in the same way.