

the accompanying disaster of widespread unemployment. Proportionate national development demands extensive information as to home resources, world requirements, trade treaties, transportation and banking facilities, and, incidentally, what provision we are making in Canada for technical and trade training and the study of modern languages. In proportion as trade becomes international it calls for consideration by national authorities.

As a first step the tariff should be taken out of partisan politics and provision made for its consideration solely from an economic standpoint. To accomplish this measurably a permanent industrial board should be appointed by the federal government, whose duty would be to investigate the whole fabric of Canadian industrial production. Questions of this character cannot be mastered by haphazard methods. The necessity for the appointment of such a board will be apparent when it is realized that the tariff involves irreconcilable differences between the east and west unless reasonable compromises are brought about as a result of well-informed public opinion. One of the duties of such a body would be to frame a tariff which was not necessarily "high" or "low," and which would not be political, but based upon national interests and the ascertained needs of industry. The value of such a board, although limited to advisory functions under present circumstances, would be indisputable.

An improved system of national statistics is needed by which to judge the effects of the tariff. Such statistics should cover Canadian production as well as foreign in ported products, and should include particulars of the wages paid to Canadian workers, the hours of labor and continuity of employment. A study of these matters may lead to the recognition that power should lie somewhere to secure an adjustment between wage rates and the tariff. Since the rate of duty upon protected commodities is fixed to a large extent by the higher wage rate which it is claimed must be paid to Canadian labor as compared with labor in competing markets, it is not a matter of indifference whether Canadian workmen actually receive this wage. Either wage rates should be made to correspond with the basis of the existing tariff or the tariff should be amended to harmonize with the current cost of labor.

A careful and continuous analysis of imports is equally indispensable to a scientific treatment of the