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WHERE THE BUSINESS GOES

A despatch from Washington, discussing Canadian trade, records the fact that geography has been too much for tariffs. The position is emphasized by the statement that Canada buys more from the United States than from all other nations combined. To-day the United States takes almost the entire exports of Canadian minerals of all kinds, the bulk of its forestry exports, over half of the exports of manufactures and a third of its fishery exports. The United Kingdom is the principal market for its agricultural and animal products. The larger takings of Canadian wheat constitute the principal factor that makes England loom larger in the export trade, and the prospects are that in the future the United States will take a much larger proportion of this article.

The main exports from the United States to Canada consist of manufacturers of iron and steel. Next comes coal and coke, of which Canada is one of the largest importers in the world, and its purchases from the United States amounted to \$41,102,569, in 1912. Other large imports from the United States were wood and its manufactures, corn, oils, drugs, and chemicals, raw cotton, gutta percha and its manufactures, cotton goods, fruit, and leather and its manufactures.

The same Washington despatch, with true Yankee pride, says that in spite of tariff preferences Great Britain's share of the Canadian market has steadily declined before the advance of American goods. Geography undoubtedly has a lot to do with the fashioning of Canadian trade statistics, which show that in the year of confederation, the United States took 47.9 per cent. of Canada's total exports; in 1880, 37.9 per cent.; in 1890, 41.9 per cent.; in 1900, 35.7 per cent.; in 1910, 37.35 per cent., and in 1912, 38.23 per cent. Of Canada's im-

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ports in 1868 the United States furnished 33.77 per cent.; in 1880, 40.33 per cent.; in 1890, 45.99 per cent.; in 1900, 59.17 per cent.; in 1910, 58.81 per cent., and in 1912, 65.09 per cent.

Much has been said about lack of enterprise in Canada on the part of British manufacturers, but that lack is to some extent imaginary rather than real. The British manufacturer has other markets as well as Canada. He has keen competition in the Dominion from the United States, which has geographical advantages, besides knowing thoroughly the trading methods of the American continent. It is not for this country to make excuses for the comparatively small share of its import trade obtained by Great Britain. Commerce is purely a matter of business. All things being equal, however, Canada might well give the best consideration to the country which is financing, with many millions of dollars every year, the development of the Dominion.

THE LADY AND THE CONTRACT

The name of Miss Katrine Ellen Fawns will go down in Canadian history, via Hansard, as the lady who caught the Dominion Government napping and caused an historic verbal battle between Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux and Hon. L. P. Pelletier, past and present postmasters-general, respectively. Miss Fawns obtained a twenty-year contract with the government for placing wherever she may please throughout the Dominion pillars for the sale of stamps and for advertising purposes. Mr. Pelletier said that his predecessor signed the agreement. Mr. Lemieux contended he did not. This contradiction and the terms of the contract engaged the attention of parliament for many hours.