

It is also evident that the influx of foreign immigration into the two great Western Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta has created in those Provinces a political atmosphere which is possibly more American than Canadian, and which is certainly more Canadian than British; and which, in the last alternative, is not altogether dissimilar to that which prevails in the Province of Quebec. The majority of the immigrants, crossing the Southern Boundary of those Provinces, find therein municipal and provincial institutions, schools and churches and in fact, a social life and social conditions similar to those which they had previously enjoyed in the United States of America. They and their children become attached to Canada; their welfare and that of their families is dependent upon the general prosperity of Canada; but their patriotism is naturally confined to Canada, and upon their minds and hearts appeals for loyalty to the British Throne and for allegiance to the British Empire make little or no favourable impression.

To these two distinct classes of our population must be added a third and ever-increasing class, that of the Canadian native born of the second, third and fourth generations, in whose minds the sentiments of fervid and intense loyalty, which led their fathers to separate themselves from the American States to build new homes in Ontario and in the Maritime Provinces, are, from generation to generation, becoming more vague and evanescent.

It is apparent, therefore, that the supreme test which will hereafter be applied by the majority of Canadian electors to any policy or policies relating to Inter-Imperial affairs or to external relations will be, whether such policy or policies are in the best interests of Canada as a distinctive political entity. In particular, the future relations of Canada with Great Britain and with the British Empire will, in a large measure, be determined by the test of their utility to Canada—by sentiments of patriotism, rather than by sentiments of racial affinity.

It was in part due to considerations such as these, perhaps, that those, who are most anxious to maintain Canada's political connection with Great Britain and with the Empire, first sought to develop the policy of Inter-Imperial Tariff Preference, in the hope that, by creating economic interests, common to Great Britain and to the over-seas Dominions, a strong material bond might be fabricated, which would continue as an abiding cohesive force, even although