

The deputation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association which waited upon the Dominion Government at Ottawa on the 13th of January, 1911, was received by the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Premier and President of the Council; the Right Honourable Sir Richard Cartwright, G.C.M.G., Minister of Trade and Commerce; Honourable Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture; Honourable Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior; Honourable Wm. Pugsley, Minister of Public Works; Honourable Geo. P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals; and Honourable W. L. McKenzie King, Minister of Labour. Mr. D. A. Gordon, M.P., of East Kent, introduced the deputation. He said:

"Sir Wilfrid, and Members of the Government: I assure you I deem it not only a pleasure but a privilege to be permitted to introduce to you this very important deputation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, representing, as they do, industries of all kinds scattered throughout the length and breadth of this Dominion from Sydney to Vancouver. I do not intend to say more than a word by way of introduction, but will refer briefly to the phenomenal development that, under the stable tariff of this Government, has come to the country during the last fifteen years. We can point with pride to-day to a total trade aggregating approximately a billion dollars; we can point with pride to deposits in our chartered banks aggregating nearly a billion dollars, a large portion of that sum being deposited for investment in industrial and commercial pursuits. We can also point with pride to the fact that the members of the Association represented by the present deputation have, since 1900, invested three-quarters of a billion dollars in the pursuits that are developing this country. That fact not only enthralls Canadians, but has created envy throughout the world and has called Canada to the attention of nearly everyone. And I may say that I believe that the hands that have guided the ship of state so successfully and so progressively can be trusted to legislate for the people in the future in the same way that they have in the past. I now take great pleasure in presenting to you Mr. W. H. Rowley, President of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Mr. W. H. Rowley:

"Sir Wilfrid: The men comprising the deputation which has the honour to wait upon you this morning, are members of and are here on behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, an organization which may fairly lay claim to represent manufacturing opinions in every line of trade in every part of Canada.

"While it is not yet our good fortune to carry on our roll of membership the name of every Canadian manufacturer, it is a fact, easily substantiated, that those who by their support have openly proclaimed their sympathy for the principles for which we stand account for seventy-five per cent. of the capital invested in legitimate Canadian manufacturing enterprises. And account also for upwards of seventy per cent. of the artisans and workpeople who are dependent upon these Canadian enterprises for their livelihood.

"Because it has frequently been the misfortune of our Association to be misunderstood and misrepresented, particularly in regard to the alleged selfishness said to characterize some of our actions, I have thought it well and wise to preface our Memorial to you this morning with a brief statement explaining some of the purposes for which we exist.