

impossible for me to accept the kind invitation of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to attend their annual banquet on August 30. I need not tell you that I regard the protection of Canadian industries, in which your association is so greatly concerned, as being of the most vital importance to Canada, and I believe that the progress and prosperity of the country is greatly identified with the maintenance of the great principle of giving fitting appreciation to all Canadian industries and all Canadian labor. The great principle involved in that policy is sufficiently broad to meet whatever necessity may present itself. That policy in no way conflicts with the mutual preferential trade policy within the Empire, which I hope at no distant date will be inaugurated, as I am satisfied that an examination will show that it is the great means of promoting the unity of the Empire, and will strengthen it by the great development of Canada, Australasia and South Africa." More recently Sir Charles visited Toronto, accompanied by Hon. Hugh John Macdonald, and both of them, in the Massey Music Hall, proclaimed their belief in and adhesion to the National Policy, such as it was in the days of Sir John A. Macdonald, the father of Hon. Hugh John. Since then Hon. Hugh John has repudiated the very essence and spirit of the National Policy, and what is Sir Charles going to do about it?

A telegram from Brandon, Man., announces that Hon. Clifford Sifton had declined to accept an invitation from Hon. Hugh John Macdonald to meet in that town, and from the same platform discuss questions of common interest. Upon what question of common interest could the two gentlemen possibly differ? Mr. Sifton advocates free trade for agricultural implements, the manufacture of which is one of the most valuable industries of Canada, and Mr. Macdonald also advocates free trade for agricultural implements. Mr. Sifton says he expresses the views of his party; Mr. Macdonald, who is not an adherent of Mr. Sifton's party, does not seem to express the views of the party to which he says he belongs. What is he after?

If Hugh John Macdonald wins a seat in the coming elections as a member of the Dominion House of Commons his position will be an anomalous one. If Sir Charles Tupper's party carries the day, Mr. Macdonald expects to be Finance Minister, and as such formulate a new tariff, which, as far as

agricultural implements go, will resemble the play of Hamlet with that important character omitted. It will be either that or he will be like a cat in a strange garret—a free-trade protectionist among a party of protectionists who mean protection. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier's party carries the day, Mr. Macdonald would find himself in company with a party of professed free-traders, who would care nothing for him, and also in a company of protectionists who could have no sympathy with his tergiversations. Mr. Macdonald is certainly on the wrong track.

Sir Charles and Sir John were the fathers of the National Policy, which included adequate tariff protection to our manufacturing industries. Hugh John, the son of his father and now the lieutenant of Sir Charles, has assumed the role of free-trade protectionist, and thinking of the effect of the recent Manitoba speech of the lieutenant upon Canadian manufacturers generally, Sir Charles, in a low gurgling tune sings:—

The lightning bug is brilliant,
But it hasn't any mind;
It stumbles through existence
With its headlight on behind.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIAN TRADE.

The following enquiries have been received at the offices of the High Commissioner of Canada in London, and of the Canadian Section of the Imperial Institute, London, England

NOTE.—Those who may wish to correspond with any of these enquirers can obtain the names and addresses by applying to THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, Toronto. No charge for giving information. When writing refer to the numerals opposite the enquiries.

341. Enquiry has come from Dresden for the names of the most important firms in Canada trading in asbestos, and of asbestos mine owners.

342. The proprietors of a fluid for preventing and removing incrustation in land and marine boilers are desirous of introducing the article into the Canadian market, where they are not as yet represented.

343. The patentees of a zinc-light ventilator desire to have their goods placed on the Canadian market, and would be glad to hear of an agent who could push their business.

344. The addresses of a few buyers of iron crespeular and red hematite, etc., are asked for by a correspondent in Nova Scotia.

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