

export trade of that country. Heavy import duties shut out all such foreign merchandise as can to advantage be manufactured at home, and in this way home produced raw materials are consumed at home in the factories and workshops and industrial establishments which give remunerative employment to the people.

Would that it were so in Canada, but it is not, and that is the reason why the foreign trade of this country aggregates \$71 per head of population. There is no good reason why we should import millions of dollars worth of manufactures of iron, steel and other metals from the United States every year while, if we but observed the fiscal system that prevails in that country we would make all such articles at home. So too with our woolen industry. We have the raw materials, or they are easily obtainable, we have the skilled labor and we have the mills and factories already established for supplying the masses of our people with woolen and cotton cloths and clothing, but in our great love for our cousins, the British manufacturers, we reduce our duty upon their products to a point which allows Canada to be flooded with British woolens while our raw material, wool, goes to swell the volume of our export trade while our Canadian mills are closed, the machinery idle, and our woolen operatives forced to seek their living in other occupations. And this is the situation which the Canadian Gazette thinks so comforting for Canada.

DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE.

About 250 delegates from various parts of Canada were present at the annual meeting of the Daughters of the Empire held in Toronto last week. Among other business transacted the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the importation of American and other foreign goods has greatly increased, and whereas, large contracts are being let to American firms in preference to British firms, this National Chapter of Canada, of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire assembled, do hereby record deep regret at the state of affairs, and pledge ourselves individually to purchase, wherever possible, goods of Canadian or British manufacture.

The spirit of this resolution is excellent, and Canadian manufacturers should be well pleased to observe that the women of this country are awake to the necessity of patronizing manufactures of home production.

The resolution refers to the fact of large contracts being awarded to American firms in preference to British firms, which the Daughters regret very much, and pledge themselves wherever possible, to purchase goods of Canadian or British manufacture; but we suggest to the ladies that the reason for purchasing American goods in preference to British is that they are better adapted to the wants of our people, and are cheaper. No matter how much we might desire to give preference to British goods, they will always find scant sale in Canada unless they fill our requirements quite as completely as American goods, and at as favorable prices. The duty on British goods coming into Canada is only two-thirds of that imposed upon American goods, which difference is of itself a large profit in the transaction, but the lack of enterprise on the part of British manufacturers as compared with that of their American competitors, is quite effective in keeping their goods out of this market. We do not see why the Daughters should so deeply regret this condition of affairs which British manufacturers could easily remedy if they so desired.

It will be observed that the Daughters, while desiring to discriminate against American goods, make no distinction as between Canadian and British goods. They do not seem to

bear in mind that all the merchandise to which they allude is the product of human labor; and that to quite a large extent this merchandise could be manufactured here in Canada by Canadian labor. Such being the case, if the merchandise is manufactured in some other country, Canadian labor suffers for lack of that employment; and if we must purchase abroad, remembering the tariff preference we are giving to the British producer, which he does not seem to appreciate, we are certainly justified in obtaining what we want from any country that will give us the best satisfaction and the best value for our money.

We would suggest to the Daughters and to all other Canadians, that when they make purchases of any description of articles which could be manufactured in Canada they demand to see some brand, trade mark, name or other distinguishing sign showing the country of origin of such articles. If tradesmen realized that Canadians really preferred to purchase Canadian made goods, they would be quick to please their customers. At the same time it should be made a penal offense for any merchant to display or offer for sale any goods that were falsely marked as to the country of their origin; and the products of any Canadian manufacturer which do not bear in plain letters the words "Made in Canada" should be given the go by.

MR. SWANK vs. TARIFF TINKERING.

Mr. James M. Swank, of the American Iron and Steel Association, has written a letter to Hon. John Dalzell, the Pittsburg member of the Ways and Means Committee of the United States House of Representatives showing why the bill introduced in the House by Mr. Babcock, Wisconsin, should not become law. Mr. Babcock's bill proposes to amend the existing United States tariff by placing certain articles therein enumerated in the free list, and reducing the duties on others 25 to 50 per cent. Mr. Swank's letter has but very recently been made public, a few extracts from which we give as being of more or less interest to Canada.

Answering the charge that the United States Steel Corporation were selling their products in foreign markets at lower prices than are charged to home consumers, waiving the enquiry whether or not this allegation is correct, Mr. Swank says:

1. Prices of iron and steel in this country are fixed by competition and the law of supply and demand. No corporation has a monopoly of their manufacture, or ever can have in this country of boundless individual enterprise, wide opportunities and widespread natural resources. The corporation alluded to does not to-day control one-half of the country's aggregate iron and steel capacity, more than one-half being controlled by independent companies, most of which possess ample capital, modern plants and abundant resources in raw material.

2. The United States Steel Corporation, instead of using its influence to unduly advance prices, has ever since its creation less than a year ago steadily insisted on keeping prices within reasonable limits. The temptation to advance prices of steel rails, for instance, which has been presented in a season of great railroad prosperity, has been resisted, and the price of steel rails is to-day just the same as it was ten months ago—namely, \$28 a ton, a price to which no objection is made by any railroad manager in the country.

Arguing that the Babcock Bill was aimed to destroy the prosperity of the iron trade, Mr. Swank says:

This Bill is invidious in this respect: That it aims a blow at our prosperous iron and steel industries, while leaving untouched the other prosperous domestic industries of equal or almost equal magnitude. Particularly may it be mentioned that the Dingley duties on products of the farm, the necessities of life, have not been disturbed in this Bill. Iron