

arts and sciences than in the previous ninety years; and to Canada, to Ontario and to Toronto, the headquarters of the Association in that decade, events of the utmost importance occurred, included in which were the establishment of the finest electric street railway system in the world; the erection of many important commercial buildings in the construction of which steel beams and girders were for the first time introduced; and the beginning of steel steamship building in two large establishments, from which some of the finest and largest steel vessels for both passenger and freight service on our inland waters were launched. In these most important enterprises, as in many others, members of the Association invested largely of their wealth; but to none of these, not to all of them, does as much importance attach as to the establishment of the pig iron industry. The connection of the Association with that event as herein shown, was of the utmost importance not only to Ontario but to all Canada, the failure to record which, and the other events here alluded to, reflects no credit upon the historian of the Association nor upon those who instigated his forgetfulness.

COLD WATER AND MUCH WIND.

There are Canadian protectionists who, not satisfied with the repeated assurance of the government that the British preference will not be repealed, and that the tariff will remain as it is for some time, have resolved to pursue an aggressive policy and insist on an increase of protection for their own benefit. The other day they waited on the government with some claims formulated by the Manufacturers' Association, at Montreal last November. They got a promise that their suggestions would be considered, and are now waiting for the result. Have they considered whether this aggressive course is quite a safe policy for them to pursue? It may be well to remember that the present government came into office as anti-protectionist, the advocate of a revenue tariff; and it may well be questioned whether its members can be said to have received from the electors a mandate to enact a high protectionist tariff. There are still in the party that sustains the government a large number who are not willing to go beyond the limits of the present tariff, in the way of protection. At present things are quiescent, but these people cannot safely be forced to go much further in a position they have hitherto reluctantly travelled. There are two sides to the question raised by the deputation, and both have to be taken into account by the government.—The Monetary Times.

With deep snow covering the ground, and with ice twenty inches thick on the bay, our manufacturers should feel grateful to our esteemed contemporary for the buckets full of cold water it is pouring down their backs—very thankful. No one supposes that the Canadian tariff is like the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be altered. No one supposes that the government is composed of a lot of narrow-minded and spiteful men who are inclined to do a mean act simply because the manufacturers ask them to perform a just one. Are the manufacturers to be denied the right of petition? Suppose they do remember that the present government come into office as anti-protectionist, have they not been in office lo! these many years, and have they not, during all that time, substantially upheld the tariff bequeathed to them by Hon. Mr. Foster? The manufacturing industries of Canada, with a few exceptions, are in a decidedly flourishing condition, and if those which are not in that condition can show to the government that their sufferings arise from some incongruities of the tariff, should not the necessary relief be afforded? There is no question as between a revenue tariff and a high protection tariff. With the woolen industry particularly it is a matter of life or death. The government does not wish to see the woolen industry die. Cold water and wind are cheap commodities at this season of the year.

ASK AND YE SHALL RECEIVE.

An influential deputation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association had a lengthy interview with the Premier, and the Ministers of Finance and Customs in Ottawa on January 21. The interview was a private one, but the questions presented for consideration might be grouped under the following heads:—Suggested temporary recall of Mr. J. S. Larke, Canadian Commissioner to Australia, in order that he may post himself upon the development in Dominion affairs since he has been absent from the country, and give the manufacturers of Canada the benefit of his experience. Appointment of special trade commissioners to Great Britain. Appointment of Canadian agents at foreign centres, where Canada does business, who should be required to furnish to shippers and exporters of Canadian goods information calculated to facilitate and develop trade. Reciprocal trade on an equitable basis with Australia. Substantial assistance towards direct steamship communication with Australia and South Africa. At present the export of heavy Canadian goods to Australia go by way of New York, resulting in heavy transshipment charges and vexatious delays, which render it difficult to compete with United States exporters. With respect to South Africa it was recognized that the privilege of shipping Canadian merchandise to that country had given an incentive to Canadian exports, but trade would be put on a more permanent and satisfactory basis by the government subsidizing a line. The imposition of a net duty of 30 per cent. upon woolens instead of a duty of 35 per cent., with the tariff preference of one-third off. Equalization of the duty on oatmeal, as compared with that upon oats, by substituting a specific duty of 60 cents per 100 lbs. in the place of the present ad valorem duty of 20 per cent. upon the former. Extension of same encouragement now given to iron and steel industries to new branches of those industries as they come to be established in the country. The readjustment of the tariff in so far as it effects agricultural implements and cottons was also urged. During the discussion the ministers asked numerous questions, and seemed desirous of informing themselves as fully as possible upon the points raised.

SHIPMENTS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has been shipping large quantities of Canadian products to South Africa on account of the Imperial War Office. The shipments, now amounting to six or seven shiploads per month, are helping to develop the commerce in agricultural products from Canada. In view of the demand which is likely to arise in South Africa at the close of the war for wheat or flour, oatmeal, beans, pearl barley, cured and canned meats, canned fruits, lumber, timber, and other building materials, all sorts of manufactures of wood, wagons, agricultural machinery and probably pulp and paper, Hon. Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, sought permission from the Imperial War Office to carry such merchandise as Canadian manufacturers and merchants might want to send to South Africa on steamers chartered for cargo for the War Office. A cablegram has been received from Lord Strathcona, intimating that the War Office has assented to his request. Consequently the Department of Agriculture will be prepared to carry shipments of merchandise from St. John, N.B., and Halifax, N.S., to Cape Town, South Africa. Such shipments should be delivered at shipping ports the last week of each month, beginning in February, and until further notice. The rates of freight will be reasonably low. Those who desire