

cided to support the Government by electing the Government candidate by six or seven hundred majority. Then there was Prince County, Prince Edward Island. The people of that county understand fully the application of the tariff to their own condition and to our relations with Great Britain, for they have returned our old friend, Mr. Perry, by a respectable majority.

An hon. MEMBER. With three polls to hear from.

Mr. McMULLEN. These recent elections clearly prove that while hon. gentlemen opposite may not understand the tariff, at least the people in the constituencies understand it, and have expressed their confidence in the Government and in the tariff revision. I also find that a large portion of the press understand it. The "Flag," published in Ottawa, a paper which is somewhat independent, publishes the following in its editorial columns this morning :

Leaving Conservatism alone, leaving Liberalism alone, leaving all questions of party politics alone and looking at it strictly from the national, from the Imperial, from the British-Canadian standpoint, we have nothing but satisfaction to record with the tariff speech of Hon. Mr. Fielding, Minister of Finance, Thursday night, so far as it dealt with British-Canadian interests. It was a great night for Canada, a great night for Great Britain, a great night for Britishers all over the world.

It was the keynote to the first step to an impending rapprochement between all the nations that fly the British flag and honour the Queen as Her Britannic Majesty's subjects. A special, a reduced tariff for Great Britain, and for all countries that meet us in the same way ; and a general tariff on present lines, a general tariff to confront all the rest of the world that keep up the bars against us. That is an intelligible, sensible and strong policy that every man who is British Canadian first and foremost, and partisan afterwards, will hail with sober approval. We do not expect all Conservative readers to take this view. It is not the view of party, it is the view of a patriotism, lifted above party, that is purely national.

That is the utterance of an independent newspaper with rather Conservative leanings, I presume, with regard to that provision of the tariff. And then we have again the following in this morning's "Citizen" :

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Charles E. H. Vincent, Conservative and Fair Trader, member for the central division of Sheffield, announced he would move the following resolution a month hence :

"The House expresses grateful and fraternal recognition to the Government and people of the Dominion of Canada of the generous fiscal changes in favour of British trade and labour, announced on Thursday by the Parliament of Ottawa, and already in force, and hopes this first step towards a commercial federation of the Empire will be followed by Australasia, South Africa and the other colonies."

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, replying, said : The Government cordially appreciated the friendly spirit shown by the tariff action of Canada. "But,"

he added, "I understand the proposals do not depend upon any alteration of the system of free trade established in the United Kingdom." That is the utterance of a very distinguished Imperial statesman whose name is well known in this House. The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain declares that he highly appreciates the action of this Government in offering better terms to England. The hon. gentleman from Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) told us that we adopted the policy of the Conservative party. I earnestly hope, Sir, that in the interests of this country, and for the credit of the party which I support, that whatever vestige of Conservative policy there may in the meantime permit to remain in the tariff, we will at least not adopt the tactics which hon. gentlemen opposite have adopted during their career. We recognize that the moment has come when the affairs of this country should be administered in an honest and patriotic manner, and we trust that those lamentable circumstances which all true Canadians were sorry to hear of, will not be associated with names of members of the Liberal Cabinet as they have been associated with the names of members of the late Conservative Cabinet. It is a singular thing that hon. gentlemen opposite will persist in the statement that these tariff resolutions offer no special privileges to Great Britain, in the face of the utterances to the contrary of British statesmen. We know, Sir, that there were read on the floor of this House quotations from the "Times" and from leading English journals, accepting in a spirit of gratitude and recognizing in a spirit of mutual friendliness, the action of Canada with regard to the preferential clause in the tariff.

It is said that this clause is going to give privileges to other countries as well as to England, and the hon. member (Mr. Davin) stated that some twenty-two countries including the colonies, would be enabled to claim the same privileges as England was likely to become heir to. Sir, if there are other countries prepared to give to Canada the same advantages which she enjoys in the markets of Great Britain, we will have no objection whatever to admit their goods on favourable terms. If there is anything that Canada requires more than another, it is an extended market for her products. We know that owing to the unfortunate action of the United States—unfortunate in their own interests as well as in ours—we have been practically shut out of that market. England has of necessity become the great market for the surplus products of Canada, and I do hope that the loyal action of Canada may be the means of giving us preference in that market that we have not enjoyed before. If, before the embargo was placed on our cattle in England, hon. gentlemen opposite had announced a policy showing their desire to give Great Britain an advantage in our market, I have not the slightest doubt that we would be