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CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers Association has issued a call for the eighteenth regular annual meeting of the Association, to be held in Toronto, on Tuesday next, the 7th inst., at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, and for a meeting of the Tariff Committee of the Association to be held on Tuesday the 14th inst., at the same hour in the day, for the transaction of such business as may come before it.

An impression prevails that at the present session of the Dominion Parliament propositions will be entertained to alter and amend the tariff in certain particulars. No change can possibly be made in the tariff that will not in some manner affect some Canadian manufacturing industry. This being the case, in view of possible changes, Canadian manufacturers should be alert in looking after their individual interests. This can best be accomplished by and through this Association, where its influence as such, and that of its members, including those interested in all the various industries of the country, is brought to act in concert in looking after and advocating the interests of the individuals who compose the Association.

The enemies of the National Policy seek to discredit it by

declaring that the manufacturers are opposed to any changes or modifications of the tariff, no matter what necessity therefor may exist. Of course this is not true. The manufacturers recognize the fact that the circumstances of the age in which we live require that changes be made in the tariff from time to time, and that it is to their interest, and to the interest of the whole country, that they be made promptly when needed. Such changes must be made by either the friends or the enemies of the National Policy. If the friends of it are alert to their interests the changes will be made by them. If they are supine, its enemies will quickly destroy its vitality and effectiveness.

It does not follow that because tariff changes are necessary they should always be made with a downward tendency. If obstructive prominences must be leveled down, the depressions should be leveled up. This is according to the ethics of protection.

It is of the utmost importance that the manufacturers, who are friends of protection, should meet and give expression to their views in this matter, promulgating them to the Government and to the public at large. And, that this may be the better done, it is very desirable that there be a large meeting of manufacturers, as above indicated, for this purpose. This invitation is extended to all Canadian manufacturers, whether members of this Association or not. Those who are not already members are invited to become such; and any person directly interested in any Canadian manufacturing industry is eligible for membership.

At this forthcoming meeting of the Association the Tariff Committee for the ensuing year will be chosen; and it is a meeting of this committee that is called to assemble on February 14th. This committee will be fresh from the Association and fully conversant with the views of the members. Its duty will be to consider all applications and suggestions from manufacturers regarding tariff matters and the administration of the customs laws, who may desire the co-operation of the Association; and it is particularly desirable that manufacturers who may desire the co-operation of the Association should be present and lay their matter before the Tariff Committee.

MR WILKIE AND THE TARIFF.

Last week Mr. D. R. Wilkie, who had been elected president of the Toronto Board of Trade by acclamation, was inducted into his office; and in his inaugural address he expressed his views upon some important subjects of national interest.

Thus in speaking of the iron industry he asked if it were not possible, by an extension of the bounty system, and by a reduction in the tariff on iron, to fuse the apparently diverse interests of producer and consumer. He alluded to the fact that at present the duty upon imported iron varied from \$2 per ton (upon wrought scrap), to \$13 (upon rolled bars), a bounty of \$4 per ton being allowed by the Dominion Government upon all (pig) iron manufactured in Canada. He also stated, as reported in the morning papers, that the duty collected upon iron and steel, "manufactured and unmanufactured," for the fiscal year ending June, 1892, amounted to \$2,792,018; while the bonus earned by the smelting companies