

United States market would tend to raise their prices. How, then, can we account for the great increase in the prices of the products of the forest, farms and fisheries, as compared with the small increase in the prices of manufactured commodities which might be said to be due to the increase in prices of raw materials as much as to the tariff?

The conclusion of course is, as this correspondent, Mr. Colin McKay, of St. John, says, that one must delve considerably deeper than the tariff to find the cause or causes of the prevailing high cost of living.

We have had no opportunity to verify Mr. McKay's quotations, but presume they are accurate, and if so they certainly support his conclusion.

It is also to be noted the increase in the cost of living in recent years has not been confined to countries with a protective tariff, but is just as much in evidence in Free Trade Britain as elsewhere.

But after all the high cost of living is not a serious matter to the public generally, but only to those of low fixed salaries or a small fixed income.

It does not touch the producing farmers, and the industrial workers of Canada are probably better off to-day than they were in the days of low prices.

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From the *Montreal Weekly Witness*, August 15th, 1913:

IS CANNERS CO. KILLING OFF COMPETITION?—SCALE OF PRICES FOR NEW GOODS WOULD SUGGEST THIS—LOCAL TRADE SLOW.

*Dun's Bulletin* of Saturday, August 2, says of Montreal trade: "The heat spell has drawn further contingents to the seaside and mountains, and city retail trade is on the slow side. Wholesale business is of a rather more than usually quiet midsummer character, and the tendency to buy cautiously is strongly in evidence.