

Reciprocity.

I desire to express my appreciation of the honour you have conferred upon me in asking me to address the Club of a metropolitan city! The subject of Reciprocity with the United States has been canvassed so much of late that I shall not attempt to deal with it except in the most general way. There are so many others better qualified to speak upon the items in detail that it would be an impertinence for me to offer suggestions on items which might come up for discussion. I shall endeavour to point out what I understand to be the points of view of those for and against the idea of a broadening of the basis of trade between ourselves and the United States.

There is, first, the man who views Reciprocity as meaning a lowering of the tariff or practically no tariff upon certain items between the two countries. This man's view usually is that on the items of which he is the particular buyer there ought not to be any duty, and is particularly represented by the western agriculturist.

There is another class who are anxious to maintain a tariff to protect the Canadian manufacturer, but who wish to see the abolition of the duty so far as the United States is concerned upon goods that he has to sell. This is largely the eastern farmer, who wants access to the United States eastern markets for the products of the farm, but at the same time if possible to keep up the tariff wall so as to protect our manufacturers on this side and thus maintain his home market as well.