

exactly three years from that day, namely June 21st. 1896, the Liberal Party were elected to office in the Dominion of Canada.

One of the first acts of this newly elected Liberal Party was to carry out its pledge "to promote freer trade" and accordingly during the session of 1897, less than one year after being elected to office 48 articles were placed on the free list and the duty reduced on 147 other items. In 1904 and in 1907 other reductions were made.

At the time these tariff changes were made the percentage of duty on total value of goods entered for home consumption in Canada was 18.28. As the duty was reduced from time to time this percentage accordingly was lowered

In the following table figures are given from 1896 to 1911 showing the total imports into Canada for home consumption; the amount of Customs duty actually collected; the percentage of duty on total value of goods imported; what the reduction of the percentage of duty was owing to the tariff being reduced; the total amount of duty collected; what the duty would have been had no reduction taken place and the difference or what the actual saving was to the people of Canada.