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**The following views on Reciprocity were furnished
to the Mail and Empire by Mr. Z. A. Lash,
Chairman of the Canadian National
League.**

On February 20, 1911, the manifesto against reciprocity, signed by eighteen supporters of the Laurier Government, was published in the Canadian press, and the reasons for the opposition were given. The reasons stated shortly were:—

1. Because since the legislation relating to reciprocity with the United States was repealed by Parliament in 1897, the Government had received no mandate or authority from the people of Canada to negotiate with respect to any agreement on the subject.

2. Because the present unexampled prosperity of Canada was the result of the policy which had been pursued in the development of her trade and natural resources, and that further development along the lines of east and west transportation would be seriously checked by the proposed agreement, and the benefits of the great expenditure made to promote east and west transportation would be to a great extent lost.

3. Because the proposed agreement would seriously check the growth and development of trade between the various parts of Canada with each other, and between Canada and the various parts of the Empire.

4. Because the result of the agreement to Canada as a whole would be greatly injurious.

5. Because as a result of the agreement the freedom of action possessed by Canada with reference to her tariffs and channels of trade would be greatly curtailed and she would be hampered in developing her own resources in her own way and by her own people.

6. Because the termination of the agreement by the United States and a return to a protective tariff as against Canada would cause a disturbance of trade to an unparalleled extent, and the risk of this should not be undertaken by Canada.

7. Because Canada would be forced ultimately to extend the scope of the agreement so as to include manufactures and other things.

8. Because the agreement would weaken the ties which bind Canada to the Empire and tend to political union with the United States, and