

Washington State with inferior coal, inferior timber, and less natural advantages and only one-fourth the size of British Columbia adjoining, has more Canadians in her population than has that Province. Washington has grown from 75,000 to 350,000 in ten years, an increase equal to nearly three times the total population of British Columbia, which is only 93,000. The same comparison holds good as between the Dakotas and our Northwest. The only States it is safe to mention by way of contrast are those in the sterile belt covered by Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. These too show a growth greater than our Maritime Provinces rich in fisheries and undeveloped mines.

Compare Free Trade New South Wales with Canada. She has an area of three hundred thousand square miles, we have over three million square miles. Her population in 1881 was only 751,468; in 1888 it was 1,085,740, and at same rate of increase their present population 1,230,429, or an increase of 478,961 in ten years, or more than all Canada in the same time. They have increased 60 per cent., we only 11.66. In 1874 our exports were \$89,800,000; in 1882, \$102,000,000; in 1890, \$96,749,149; in 1874 our imports were \$128,000,000; in 1882, \$119,000,000; in 1890, \$112,765,584. Our foreign trade is not greater than it was seventeen years ago. But little New South Wales with one-fourth our population in 1888 exported \$104,000,000 and imported \$104,000,000. She has \$75,000,000 invested in manufacturing enterprises and employs 45,500 hands therein. Will the Ministers who have used the scrap book to show the increase of our deposits please note that the deposits in the public chartered banks of this Australasian colony were in 1888 \$148,000,000 as against our \$128,000,000, *i. e.*, in proportion to population they have five times as much on deposit as we have. They have in addition Post Office Savings Banks and other savings institutions as we have.

That there is something wrong is evident to every man who travels, to every one who knows the depreciation of property, not only in the rural sections but in nearly every town and village in the country. Our commercial failures were much larger during the decade than those in the neighboring Republic in proportion to population. It is not a matter of politics. It is a business question that business men and all classes are putting every day. What is the matter and what is the remedy? It is no answer to the farmer on the magnificent lands of Western Ontario to tell him that they do not prosper tilling the rocks of Maine, or the hills of Vermont. Nor does it help to repeat that Kansas has had several bad crops, and that when they have a good one the railways take all the profit away by excessive freight charges. That may be true enough, but what he wants to know is why, with magnificent land, low freights and a trained and intelligent farming community, his property is depreciating and farming does not pay. It will not do to tell him that deposits are increasing. He knows that certain people accumulate wealth in all