

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S PROPOSALS AND CANADA

CANADA'S attitude towards Mr. Chamberlain's proposals is of some consequence. It may be stated in this way:

1. Mr. Chamberlain advocates the establishment of a protective tariff. To this Canada says nothing.

2. Mr. Chamberlain proposes preferential tariffs within the Empire. Canada is almost unanimously in favour of such tariffs.

3. Mr. Chamberlain desires commercial union of the Empire. Canada does not.

4. Mr. Chamberlain urges political union of the Empire. Canada dissents.

PROTECTION

Protection carried the Canadian elections in 1879. Those who then voted "Nay" are now Protectionists (if they yet live), and their discarded opinions have been adopted by nobody. Canadians are inclined to think that Protection would be beneficial to the United Kingdom, but they recognise that the conditions differ, and they leave the debate to those who are better qualified than they for its discussion.

Protection in the United Kingdom may be detrimental or advantageous to Canada. If unaccompanied by exemption of Canadian products, Canada must suffer by its enforcement,