

*Adopting Free Trade in Canada would not reduce the tariff that other countries maintain against Canadian goods for the protection of their own people.*

ally themselves with friends, and push the friends to the front. Some attempt to storm the office. Some dig trenches at a distance and approach in regular siege form. I feel like the besieged lying on my arms night and day. I have offended at least twenty parliamentary friends by my defence of the citadel. A weak minister here would ruin the party in a month, and the country very soon. So I must drudge on as I best may, and carry out the experiment of doing right whatever happens, and trusting to have a majority in the House to sustain me, and when that fails I will go out cheerfully, if not joyfully."

I am yours faithfully,

A. MACKENZIE.

The defender of the "citadel" has gone the way of all the earth, but the attacking parties are still alive, enraged to desperation by a long eighteen years' hunger for office, and reinforced by such men as Tarte and Pacaud. Electors of Canada, the inference is plain. Don't trust them.

#### **Self-Evident Truths.**

A self-evident truth is one which needs but to be stated to be accepted by candid, unprejudiced minds. We hold the following to be self-evident.

First—If the Canadian people purchase from the United States ten million dollars worth of goods, Canada gets the goods and the United States get the ten million dollars in cash, but if we buy the same goods from Canadian producers, then Canada has both the goods and the money and is ten million dollars better off than by the former transaction.

Second—If the production of these goods in this country would give a year's employment to twenty thousand of our own people, then buying the goods abroad will leave twenty thousand of our own people idle who might have been employed had we purchased the goods at home, and if these twenty thousand people would have earned on an average \$400 each, then we, having destroyed their purchasing power, have reduced the demand for all goods in this country and damaged our home market to the extent of eight millions of dollars, less what our people will buy, and give to these idle people as charity to keep them from starvation.

Third—Just in proportion as we destroy the home market or demand for goods, we throw other thousands of people out of employment, and this still further reduces the

purchasing power of our people and leads on and on to the indefinite impoverishment of our people individually and of the country at large.

Fourth—If such goods can be produced and shipped into this country from abroad cheaper than they can be produced at home, then our people will surely buy from abroad, and there are but two known ways of preventing it; one is by a tariff which will shut the goods out of this market, the other is the reduction of the cost of home production. And as the chief cost of production is wages, if such cost is reduced to any appreciable extent it must be through a reduction of wages, which not only impoverishes the laborer, but also every other person of whom the laborer is accustomed to purchase the necessaries and the luxuries of life.

These truths cannot be denied. But in presenting them to Free Traders we are met with the answer, "Oh, but we must increase our own foreign trade; we must enlarge the foreign markets for our own productions."

We know of but one way that this can be accomplished to any appreciable extent, and that is by so reducing wages in this country that we can produce the goods at a cost which will enable us to compete with all foreign manufacturers and producers in the markets of the world. And then, suppose it does happen that by allowing ten million dollars worth of goods to come into this country from abroad, we are thereby enabled to sell ten million dollars of our own productions in foreign markets, which we could not otherwise have sold, where will we have gained anything?

It is simply an exchange of our commodities for a like amount of foreign products. It is like taking a dollar out of one pocket and putting it into another, and to accomplish this result we have reduced our workmen to starvation wages, greatly damaged our home market by reducing the purchasing power of our people, and thus strike a fatal blow at the hitherto wonderful prosperity of this country.

Conclusion.—If we are legislating for the benefit of the people of other countries, Free Trade is the proper thing for that purpose. But if we are legislating for Canada and her people then Protection is what is required.

*Canadian Free Trade would benefit foreign nations whose Governments will make no return to Canadian producers.*