

Tariff and International Trade.

Heretofore we have expected imports and exports to find a satisfactory adjustment by means of international trade. Whatever the merits of this method in the past, there is less reason to believe that it will serve equally well for the future. International trading will be seriously affected as an outcome of the war, and will depend more than formerly upon trade alliances and an assured exchange of products. Large use will be made of tariffs as a means of economic rehabilitation; such measures are not necessarily forms of reprisal, but will be required to meet the necessities of the financial situation. It will doubtless be of increasing importance to cultivate chiefly those markets in which is found the closest and most obvious exchange of products. Foreign trade must not be left in future to find as it can a satisfactory adjustment. In Great Britain there is evidence of a widespread desire that British fiscal policy and international commercial arrangements shall find a new adjustment. The present alliance for defence is developing into an economic alliance. Similar measures are now being planned by the Central European powers. There are not wanting signs that the United States may further develop its self-contained policy.

The Tariff and the Empire.

Great Britain, being the largest and most certain market for Canadian products, it may pay us better to purchase our foreign requirements there, even at a slightly greater immediate cost. We may be able to buy, for instance, in the United States many commodities at a less present cost, but it does not follow that such purchases will bear the same ultimate cost. If a portion of our imports from the United States, now amounting to over \$400,000,000 annually, was diverted to British markets, to the same extent we would ensure a market for our own home products. No other market offers the same certainty of demand, and this is not a small matter in shaping a wise national policy. The American market offers no such guarantee of advantage or permanency.

At a meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, held recently in London, important resolutions were adopted affecting the future commercial policy of Great Britain. The opening resolution reads as follows: "This association desires to place on record, for the guidance of those who follow