

the history of the country do not bear out? Comparing the last seven years of Conservative administration with the first seven under the Liberals, we find a tremendous increase under the Liberal policy. Here are the details:

Total foreign trade for seven years
from 1897 to 1903, inclusive.... ..\$2,542,701,333
Total foreign trade for seven years
from 1890 to 1896, inclusive..... .. 1,630,446,121

Increase last seven years under
Liberal policy\$ 912,255,212

I ask again, are the figures true, are the figures correct and if they are, should not every hon. gentleman in whose breast patriotic emotions swell rejoice that these facts are made patent, they are known?

Some people prefer to judge our material progress by our exports; that is to say, the goods we produce in Canada and sell abroad for gold or exchange.

Mr. LANCASTER. Does the hon. gentleman say that these figures are correct that he has just mentioned?

Mr. PATERSON. I believe them to be correct.

Mr. LANCASTER. Does the hon. gentleman know whether they are correct or not?

Mr. PATERSON. I believe them to be correct.

Mr. LANCASTER. The hon. gentleman does not know whether they are correct or not.

Mr. PATERSON. I used these figures in the House, if I am not mistaken, and I will warrant you that I assured myself, whether right or wrong, that I believe them to be correct. The hon. gentleman can turn up and see whether I did so or not. At any rate as we are discussing the kind of information that was prepared, not with the view particularly of this campaign, but with the view of being used in this House and on the platform, I think that those hon. gentlemen opposite who have met me on the platform will admit that as far as the figures are concerned they have not been seriously controverted or attempted to be set aside.

Some people prefer to judge our material progress by our exports; that is to say, the goods we produce in Canada and sell abroad for gold or exchange. Well! How do they stand?

18 years Conservative..	1878... \$67,989,800
	1896... 109,915,337
7 years Liberal.....	1903... 214,401,674

In eighteen years there had been an increase from \$67,000,000 to \$109,000,000. Then, in the seven years from 1896 to 1903 it went up to \$214,000,000. Or to view the matter in another light; we sent abroad during the latter seven years, \$470,000,000

Mr. PATERSON.

worth more than during the previous seven years. That is an astonishing rate of progress; it is something the country has reason to rejoice in, no matter what government may be in power. Will any one complain if that should be called attention to; will any one say that that statement is partisan? If so, you will have to prove that it is not an actual fact recorded in the history of this country; a fact that the present generation points to with pride as evidence that this Canada of ours has entered upon an era of progress and prosperity, such as few countries enjoy; and that future generations will read with pride. Then follow other tables: giving the produce of the mines; the fisheries, the forest, the farms, the manufactures; dealing with the bank circulation, bank discounts, the assets of the banks; showing the increased number of letters posted; showing the increase in immigrants; showing that from 1890 to 1896, 271,216 immigrants were recorded; that for the seven years 1897 to 1893 inclusive, 366,946, or an increase in the last seven years of 95,730 immigrants. That is a gratifying fact, if the figures are true, and if they are not true hon. gentlemen opposite will be able to point out the error. Then there is a return of settlers' effects taken from the trade and navigation returns; a return of the homestead entries, showing that for the eighteen years from 1879 to 1896 there were 62,661 homesteads entries, but in the last seven years there have been 75,530. Just think of that—nearly 13,000 more homestead entries for land during the last seven years than for the eighteen preceding years. That is gratifying; that is something that ought to be pleasant reading for us all. This statement was prepared and used in the House a year or two ago, and the last year was added to bring down 1903. The preparation of these figures was for the purpose of being used in the House, and they were used in the House, and I venture to say that their correctness has never been successfully attacked. Here are other tables, comparing the progress of Canada with that of other countries, and this I believe I have used on the platform in times gone by. It states that in the case of Canada and the United States the figures are made up to the end of June of the fiscal years June 30, 1896 and 1903 respectively, while in the case of all the countries with which a comparison is made, the figures are brought down to December 31, 1905 and 1902 respectively. This table was, I think, prepared, as far as I remember, before Mr. Bain had been promoted to the position of Assistant Commissioner of Customs. Hon. gentlemen opposite ought to be pleased to know that in this percentage of growth, Canada stands in the first place; ahead of Japan, the United States, Cape Colony, Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Argentine Republic, Switzerland, Great Britain and France. Canada's percentage of growth was 107.43 per