

return for tariff concessions by them to Canada. If the offer is accepted the reduced rates will go into effect on a date to be agreed upon by both parties. The tariff edition of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, contains the full official schedules of the South Africa tariff and also the provisions for a preferential tariff reduction of twenty-five per cent. in favor of Great Britain and such British possessions as might desire to be brought under the operations of it, the South African colonies interested being Cape Colony, Natal, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and Southern Rhodesia.

The several classes of the tariff are :

- (1) Specific and ad valorem duties.
- (2) Specific and a few ad valorem duties.
- (3) Duties of 2½ per cent.
- (4) Free goods.
- (5) Unenumerated goods, 10 per cent. ad valorem.

The preference to Great Britain is 25 per cent. of any duty chargeable at the ad valorem rate in classes 1, 2 and 5. In respect of clause 3, the 2½ per cent. rate is rebated entirely. A clause in the convention provides for a similar preference to British Colonies. This clause reads as follows :

A rebate similar to that for which provision is made in the last preceding article shall be granted in like manner, and under like provisions, to goods and articles the growth, product or manufacture of any British Colony, protectorate or possession granting equivalent reciprocal privileges to the Colonies and territories belonging to the union, provided that no such rebate shall be granted in the case of any particular Colony, protectorate or possession until on and after a date to be mutually agreed upon and publicly notified by the parties to the convention.

The Government, it will be seen, are taking measures to secure for the products of Canada entrance to the market of South Africa on more advantageous terms.

The initial move was made by the establishment of a line of freight steamers between Canada and the Cape, which has already had the effect of developing an export trade to South Africa. Now a reduction in the Canadian duties will be made, provided South Africa gives us a quid pro quo.

The Canadian Government's action is taken in pursuance of that clause in the tariff, which provides that the preferential tariff may be extended to any other British Colony or possession, the customs tariff of which is, on the whole, as favorable to Canada as the British preferential tariff is to the Colony or possession.

It will be remembered that some two years ago the Dominion Government subsidized a South African service, and the Allans, the Elder-Dempsters and the Furness-Withy Co. took up the work of supplying a monthly service between Montreal and South African ports, in summer, and St. John and South Africa, in winter. The Allans afterward dropped out of the agreement, leaving the service in the hands of the other two companies.

In the early days of the service there was a great deal of dissatisfaction expressed by the steamship companies over the manner in which their steamships were detained at the different South African ports, owing to the very poor facilities which the ports afforded. This, it appears, has been materially bettered within the past few months, so that now a steamship can make the trip within a reasonable period.

The South African tariff is protective in its character, including practically every article which Canada would be likely to export to that part of the world.

There is a strong feeling that the Alaska Boundary Commission enquiry must be the last in which Canadian territory shall be submitted to arbitration where the Canadian case is not entrusted to Canadians.

AT THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

It is in evidence that public sentiment in Canada regarding Imperial federation and preferential trade arrangements within the Empire has experienced a very decided cooling off as a result of the award of the Alaska Boundary Commission, decided by the casting vote of Lord Alverstone, the Chief Justice of England, and the people are again giving ear to proposals for reciprocity with the United States. The willingness for preferential trade with Great Britain is not as strong as it was previous to the decision, the idea being that while no serious objection is entertained against the award in favor of the United States, bitter blame attaches to Lord Alverstone for his consent to it. The feeling in Canada is expressed in strong language that Great Britain is quite willing to sacrifice, and has sacrificed Canadian interests to propitiate the friendship of the United States, and such being the case the willingness to maintain the tariff preference is fast disappearing. It is certainly not appreciated, and in the light of current events might with propriety be withdrawn.

The political allegiance we owe to Great Britain has had its force in the belief that the interests of Canada were safe in her keeping and would be upheld in all events; but we find that such is not the case, but rather that Canada is to be sacrificed whenever the political exigencies of Great Britain require it. Canada would be glad to continue her fealty to Great Britain if it were appreciated. Canada has always been a loyal daughter in her mother's house, but she must and will be mistress in her own. It may be that we are at the parting of the ways. Heretofore Canadian relations with other countries, particularly with the United States, have been adjudicated at Washington or London, Ottawa having but little to say or do in the matter other than to consent to what had been done, and to register the decision. Great Britain would have been humiliated and defeated as a result of the war in South Africa had it not been for the assistance rendered her by Canada and other colonies, as witness the battlefields there so fearfully imbued with the blood of loyal Canadians. Great Britain seems to have forgotten the occasion, but her prestige would have vanished, and the Boer would have driven the Briton from the Dark Continent but for colonial aid. British ingratitude and sycophancy has taught Canada a painful lesson which should not be forgotten, a lesson which should teach us to depend upon our own nerve and muscle for our position and success in life.

CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS, "SECONDARY INDUSTRIES" AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S PROPAGANDA.

At Glasgow, on October 6, in outlining his proposed fiscal policy for Great Britain, alluding to the concessions which the colonies should make, Mr. Chamberlain said :

Canada has been protective a long time. The principle industries are there, and you can never get rid of them; but the secondary industries have not yet been created, and there is an immense trade still open to you to maintain and increase. We can intervene now, but it is doubtful whether we could intervene twenty years hence. We can say to our great colonies: We understand your views and aspirations, and do not desire to dictate, or think ourselves superior to you; we recognize your right to develop your industries, so as not to be dependent on foreign supplies, but there are many things you do not know how to make for which we have a great capacity of production. Leave them to us; do not increase the tariff walls against us.

Later on in his speech Mr. Chamberlain, speaking of Canada and the other colonies said: "They would reserve to us the trade we already enjoy."