

CANADA'S TRADE.

Perhaps, I will be pardoned if I give somewhat hurriedly a few of the leading facts which mark the great prosperity of the past year. These facts can, of course, be obtained by those who take the trouble to go through the Trade and Navigation Returns, but they may be conveniently presented in a condensed form in the budget speech. It was indeed a banner year so far as the trade and commerce of the country is concerned. The aggregate foreign trade of the year 1900 was \$381,517,236. In the previous year it was \$321,661,213. The increase in the aggregate foreign trade of Canada over the previous year was \$59,856,023. When I remind the House that the increase in the whole eighteen years of the national policy was only \$66,000,000, and when I show that in one year only of the present administration, the increase was over \$59,000,000 and nearly \$60,000,000, hon. gentlemen will be able to measure the vast progress that has been made in trade of the country.

Mr. COCHRANE. When you abandoned the national policy.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. No, our hon. friends opposite have been abandoned; we are still here. The following summary is interesting and instructive:

Aggregate foreign trade, 1900.....	\$381,517,236 00
1899.....	321,661,213 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 59,856,023 00
Imports entered for consumption, 1900	\$180,804,316 00
Imports entered for consumption, 1899	154,051,593 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 26,752,723 00
Exports of produce of Canada, 1900	\$170,642,369 00
Exports of produce of Canada, 1899	138,462,037 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 32,180,332 00
Exports, the produce of Canada to Great Britain, 1900	\$96,562,875 00
Exports, the produce of Canada to Great Britain, 1899	85,114,555 00
Increase in 1900	\$11,448,320 00
Exports, produce of Canada to United States, 1900	\$59,666,556 00
Exports, produce of Canada to United States, 1899	40,426,856 00
Increase in 1900	\$19,239,700 00

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Exports, Canadian Mines to all countries, 1900	\$24,580,266 00
Exports, Canadian mines to all countries, 1899	13,368,150 00
Increase in 1900	\$11,212,116 00
Exports, Canadian fisheries, 1900	\$11,169,083 00
1899	9,909,662 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 1,259,421 00
Exports, Canadian forests, 1900	\$29,663,668 00
1899	28,021,529 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 1,642,139 00
Exports, animals and their produce, the produce of Canada, 1900	\$56,118,807 00
Exports, animals and their produce, the produce of Canada, 1899	46,743,130 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 9,405,677 00
Exports, agricultural products, the produce of Canada, 1900	\$27,516,609 00
Exports, agricultural products, the produce of Canada, 1899	22,952,915 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 4,563,694 00
Exports, manufactures of Canada, 1900	\$14,224,287 00
Exports, manufactures of Canada, 1899	11,706,707 00
Increase in 1900	\$ 2,517,580 00

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

In view of the discussions which have occasionally taken place in the House with regard to the increase of the imports from Great Britain for home consumption, I have placed together the figures for a series of years:

1895	\$31,131,737
1896	32,979,742
1897	29,412,188
1898	32,500,917
1899	37,060,123
1900	44,789,730

It will be observed, Sir, that the imports from Great Britain had been declining steadily when the policy of the present government, including the preferential tariff, was adopted. That decline was immediately arrested, and from that time on the imports from Great Britain began to increase, so that now, as compared with 1897, they show an increase to the extent of about 50 per cent.

I confess that I hardly know just how this increase of imports may be viewed by some of our hon. friends opposite. Sometimes the criticism is that by our preferential tariff we have allowed goods to come in