

ADVANCE TOWARDS HIGHER CIVILIZATION.

In the spring of 1917 the United States, through its Congress and President, decided to make common cause with the Allies of Great Britain and France in the world war pending. Within a few days of this event the Government of the Dominion of Canada under the authority of the Canadian War Measures Act, took advantage of the offer of the United States Government, made in their tariff of 1913, for Reciprocity in "wheat, wheat flour and semolina," so there is now free trade in these commodities between Canada and the United States. This is but a small portion of the Reciprocity Agreement of 1911. All who recollect 1911 will remember that those who now yield to the oft expressed wish of the western farmers fought Reciprocity with great force. It is well to recall a noted speech of that time.

Speaking in the town of Simcoe, Ont., on August 15th, 1911, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said:—

Bond of Peace and Harmony.

"I do not parade my loyalty, but I may be allowed to say that I was born under British institutions, and under these institutions my people have found a liberty that they could not have found under any other regime, and I could not do any other but stand loyally by Britain, because I value the liberty of my countrymen higher than any question of political economy. (Applause.) I have now laid before you all the objections that have been raised against this Reciprocity agreement. These objections, you will agree with me, do not stand discussion. On the other hand, the advantages are obvious. The more they are examined, the better they appear to be. They commend themselves, and the more they are discussed, the more attractive they appear, but there is much more. This agreement which we place before you for your ratification is a bond of peace and harmony and

friendship between two nations, between whom more than between any two other nations in the world, there should be a bond of mutual respect and affection. (Applause.) We share with our neighbors on this one hemisphere a longer frontier than exists between any other two nations. We spring from the same stock, English, Scotch, Irish, French, and to a certain extent, German. We have inherited in a certain measure the same institutions and everything makes for peace, harmony, and concord between us and our neighbors. Yet it was not always so. The days are not far distant, many of you remember them, as I do, when there was a feeling of hostility between Great Britain and the Dominion of Canada on the one hand, and the American Republic on the other, when the American press was filled with abuse against England, and the English newspapers talked of Yankee arrogance. Such expressions, however, are heard no more. We have seen the dawn of a new era, and better and nobler sentiments prevail. We have learned, perhaps, in spite of ourselves, that blood is thicker than water. At the battle of Manila in 1898 (when the Americans were fighting the Spaniards in Philippine waters,) the commander of one of the European (German) squadrons sought to interfere, but the commander of the British squadron who happened to be in the same waters, stated that there was to be fair play, and that if there was not fair play he would line up his ship by the side of Admiral Dewey. This was giving voice to the fact that blood was thicker than water.

The Peace Treaty.

"It was only last week that a treaty was signed between His Majesty King George V and the President of the United States, which makes it practically impossible that there shall be war between the United States and Great