

## PREFACE

After my illness during the winter of 1914-15, and on my return in April, 1915, from the West Indies, I wrote a series of letters to the press in a desire to show how the German Kaiser had, ever since early youth, looked on Britain as an enemy. The influence of Nietzsche, Treitschke, and other Germans was shown. The Kaiser's early love for the workingman and his later hatred of Labor Unions were detailed. His sister's marriage in Greece, his visits to Turkey, his attempt on Morocco; all these were steps by which he hoped to dominate the world. I apprehended then the danger of his military ambition, but not until I visited Europe in 1916 did I fully realize the extent of German success in the commercial field. The object of this pamphlet is to show Canadians how Germany's trade policy has seized and held trade everywhere and how Canada can increase her trade after the war. Germany's method of giving rebates and subsidies, of bonuses to ship-builders and to banks; her system of education and her carefully devised tariffs; these have enabled her merchants to succeed in almost every undertaking.

All of this, in a degree, comes to an end through this war. In the peace proposals that will come before 1920, Britain, France, Italy, United States and the other Allies will have their own special views. Germany and her Allies will make their demands. Many writers on trade questions and also many public men in this country have expressed the opinion that Canada should not detail any policy for the British Empire; that she should wait until Britain first makes her statement of policy. This, I think, is a wrong position for Canada to take. We are a definite and strong portion of the Empire. We should not hold back our views and ask Britain to speak first. Hundreds of thinking business men in Britain want to know Canada's hopes and wishes. They, and thousands more, are looking to Canada and Australia for a policy that will bind us firmly. This continual deferring to Britain and what she may think, does not conduce to a high Canadian development. Let Canadians stand on their own feet and declare their Empire policy. If our views are the best, then Britain's forty millions will fall in with our eight millions. If our policy is provincial or unfair then it will go to shreds.