

It is almost impossible to treat these statements seriously. But the believers in Protection take them seriously. They are spending thousands of dollars in newspapers, in pamphlets and in advertising for the purpose of telling this story from one end of Canada to the other. But the crops of wheat would grow just the same if nobody had ever heard of the Tariff on self-binders. The minerals would be brought up out of the earth even if Customs duties failed to make dear the machinery with which men work. Banks would also be necessary if the idea of Protection had never been born. In fact some years ago, while the Tariff Reform Agitators were carrying on the propaganda for Protection in Great Britain, the bankers of that country signed a memorial stating that the application of a Tariff would be a serious injury to the Banking business and that Great Britain's position in the financial world was largely due to freedom in trade.\*

Perhaps the Protectionists may argue that there would be more life insurance and fire insurance under Protection. Possibly that may be true. When a man has found out what the Protectionist manufacturers can do to him, it may to a certain extent put the fear of the Lord into him and thus induce him to go out and take on a little more life insurance or a little more fire insurance.

The Protectionists go on to say that certain experimental farms have been established. The Dom-

\*Great Britain's marvellous recovery since the War and the prominent position she is taking in the commercial affairs of the World is at once a puzzle, and in some cases, almost an annoyance to the Protectionists. After the most titanic effort ever made by any Nation, in any conflict, in all history, Great Britain stands first of the major belligerents in the rapidity of her recovery, and remember, she is doing this under conditions of Free Trade.