

# MUST COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THE UNITED STATES

**Free Exchange of Raw Materials for Manufacturing Necessary for Industrial Activity---American Government Will First Serve the War Industries---The Coal and Power Problem.**

(Financial Post.)

There is at the moment no more important issue in connection with Canadian industry and Canadian prosperity than the American government's attitude on the question of the embargo on raw materials for other than war products. The situation described a week ago has become more critical in the interval.

No effective steps have been taken at Ottawa. The need for close and amicable co-operation with the United States government and the priority

board is emphatically evident. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association continues to work on the matter and favors the appointment of a committee of experts to go to Washington in the interests of Canadian industry and to remain there until such time as the situation has been cleared up. But such a committee would necessarily require federal status to co-operate smoothly with the priority board and the election activity has evidently prevented the matter receiving proper attention at the capital.

## Relations With United States.

The enforcement of this embargo has made increasingly evident the necessity of close and friendly relations between Canada and the United States. We are dependent upon the republic to the south for many essential raw materials and for much of the coal we consume. On the other hand we are supplying American manufacturers with Niagara power and we also have a position of advantage with regard to certain raw materials.

Therefore, despite what may be the national status and relations of the two countries, Canada and the United States are naturally one as an economic unit and business relations on an equitable basis present mutual advantages.

## Aiming at Same Goal.

But if we are to conduct business relations on a free and easy basis it is necessary, at such a time as this, when we with the other great democracies of the world are straining at a common goal, that we should have similar aims and ambitions and should co-operate in their consummation.

On Monday the Canadian people are called upon to make a decision in the country's affairs. In addition to considering the consequences internally we may well regard what the effect will be externally. The international relations of a young and developing country are of great importance.

Our southern neighbor, with whom it is desirable that we should be on the closest of terms, has joined the Allies with every intention of straining the national muscles of industry and finance until the great aim is accomplished. The recent declaration of war against Austria is an indication of this.

## War Requirements First Served.

To this end the American government will conserve all national resources. War needs must first be served. And with Russia out of the conflict the burden upon the United States is going to continue to increase with the progress of the campaign.

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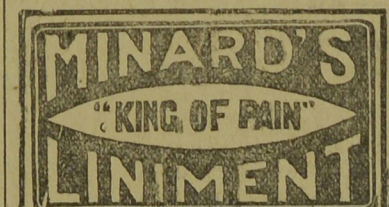
needs receiving first attention, all normal manufacturing requirements cannot be filled. Canadian manufacturers of munitions have received equal consideration with American firms. That treatment will no doubt be continued so long as there is a call for war supplies. But with regard to materials and supplies for manufacture for ordinary consumption a difference may quite well be created.

Canada is hoping that Canadian manufacturers will receive treatment as regards raw materials for ordinary products on the same basis as American concerns. The contention has been raised in some quarters that at the present time such equitable treatment is not being extended, but the Financial Post is informed by those who have investigated the whole situation that there is no evidence of this. On the other hand the United States government is behaving most generously.

The government of Canada must have the same aims and ambitions as the government of the United States if the two countries are to co-operate to the fullest extent in the prosecution of the war and in general business dealings.

## Coal and Power Problem.

As regards power and fuel, one of the largest Canadian manufacturers has this week written in connection with the Financial Post's editorial last week, calling attention to the possibilities of serious consequences should the United States, by reducing coal shipments, endeavor to retaliate for Canada cutting off supplies of electricity. This company, the second or third largest user of electrical power in the country, says: "We would be seriously affected by any reduction in the amount of power allowed us, but if our coal supply should be cut off, we should be in an immeasurably worse position; in fact, it would be out of the question under these circumstances to use any power whatsoever."



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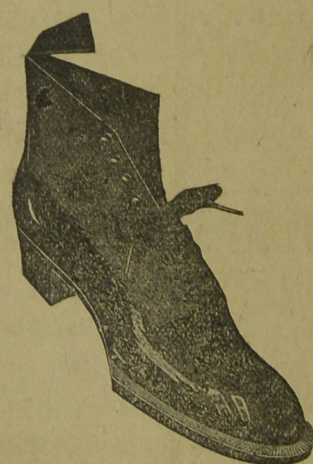
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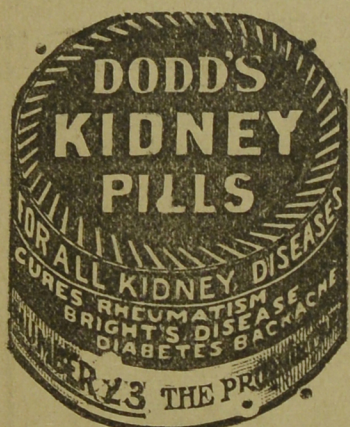


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