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NOTICE TO READERS.

THE ANGLO-SAXON goes regularly to Sons of England lodges and branches of the St. George's Society in all parts of Manitoba, the British Northwest Territories of Canada, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; to branch societies of the Sons of St. George in all parts of the United States, to Clubs, Reading Rooms, Emigration Societies and similar institutions in Great Britain and Ireland, and to British citizens generally throughout Canada, the States, Great Britain and the Empire.

IMPERIAL INERTIA.

The presence of the Colonial delegates in Ottawa, the entertainments in their honour and especially the gathering of our citizens to meet them, or, as the latter may be called in modern fashionable slang, the magnificent "function" which spread over Parliament Hill on the evening of the 5th inst., and overflowed into the "Lover's Walk," have all contributed to awaken in different minds the remembrance of different ideals of Imperial Unity, and desires more or less intense for their realisation. These ideals have one and all been vainly cherished up to the present, and many a U.E. Loyalist has gone to his rest during the past century having his heart sick with "hope deferred." To what is this delay in the establishment of a United Empire to be ascribed? To the supineness of our statesmen, or the impracticability of our ideals?

It may fairly be doubted as to whether the words "Imperial Federation" truly embody the "pious wishes" of those who sigh for a greater degree of Imperial Unity. Indeed it may be maintained that among the latter many prominent writers have withheld their approval of the name adopted for indicating the closer union of the different peoples of the British Empire. Their prejudices against these two words seem to be based upon their disbelief in the possibility of creating a new Imperial Parliament that would have higher legislative powers than the present House of Lords and House of Commons in England, and upon the conviction that direct representation in such a parliament of the various parts of the Empire according to population would be utterly impossible. It is probably for these reasons that a change of name has frequently been mooted among the members of the Imperial Federation League in Canada, and that the advisability of a similar change for the City of London Branch is now being discussed.

It is much to be doubted whether any change of name would bring any advantage to the movement, and possibly the abandonment of the words "Imperial Federation" would give considerable "aid and comfort" to our opponents. At the same time we think this to be regretted that, when the League was formed nine years ago, its name was not selected with greater care. On the ground of priority alone we are of opinion that the preference ought to have been given to "Imperial Consolidation," words which indicate more correctly the objects for which the friends of the Unity of the Empire are striving. It is now about twenty-two years since Lord Beaconsfield used this term in one of his speeches, the object of which was to institute a comparison between Liberal and Conservative principles. In order that our readers may be able to judge of the significance of the term referred to we quote the following extract: (Beaconsfield's Speeches Vol. II., p. 530.)

"Gentlemen, there is another and second great object of the Tory party. If the first is to maintain the institutions of the country, the second is to uphold the Empire of England. If you look to the history of this country since the advent of Liberalism—forty years ago—you will find that there has been no effort so continuous, so subtle, supported by so much energy, and carried on with so

"much ability and acumen, as the attempts of Liberalism to effect the disintegration of the Empire of England, and, gentlemen, of all its efforts this is the one which has been the nearest to success. Statesmen of the highest character, writers of the most distinguished ability, the most organised and efficient means have been employed in this endeavour. It has been proved to all of us that we have lost money by our colonies. It has been shown with precise, with mathematical demonstration, that there never was a jewel in the Crown of England that was so costly as the possession of India. How often has it been suggested that we should at once emancipate ourselves from this incubus. Well, that result was nearly accomplished. When those subtle views were adopted by the country under the plausible plea of granting self-government to the Colonies, I confess that I myself thought the tie was broken. Not that I for one object to self-government. I cannot conceive how our distant colonies can have their affairs administered except by self-government. Self-government, in my opinion, when it was conceded ought to have been conceded as part of a great policy of IMPERIAL CONSOLIDATION. It ought to have been accompanied by an Imperial Tariff, by securities for the people of England for the enjoyment of the unappropriated lands which belonged to the Sovereign as their trustee, and by a military code which should have defined precisely the means and the responsibilities by which the colonies should be defended, and by which, if necessary, this country should call for aid from the colonies themselves. It ought further to have been accompanied by the institution of some representative council in the metropolis which would have brought the Colonies into constant and continuous relations with the home government. All this however, was omitted because those who advised that policy—and I believe their convictions were sincere—looked upon the Colonies of England, looked even upon our connection with India as a burden upon this country, viewing everything in a financial aspect, and totally passing by those moral and political considerations which make nations great and by the influence of which alone men are distinguished from animals. Well, what has been the result of this attempt during the reign of Liberalism for the disintegration of the Empire? It has entirely failed. But how has it failed? Through the sympathy of the Colonies with the Mother country. They have decided that the Empire shall not be destroyed, and, in my opinion, no minister in this country will do his duty who neglects any opportunity of reconstructing as much as possible our Colonial Empire, and of responding to those distant sympathies which may become the source of incalculable strength and happiness to this land."

In these remarkable sentences Lord Beaconsfield has stated, among other things well worthy of our attention, what ought to have been arranged at the time when self-government was conferred upon the Colonies by Great Britain, all of which work constitutes Imperial Consolidation, and still remains to be done. Provision has still to be made for an Imperial Tariff, for a proper system of state aided emigration to settle our Crown Lands, for the Defence of the Empire and for an Imperial representative Council. But to repair the errors and omissions of fifty years ago is a difficult task, and one which none of the political parties in England has yet seriously contemplated. Neither have the statesmen of the Empire responded to the "distant sympathies" mentioned by Lord Beaconsfield, even although these have been distinctly enough expressed. In proof of this we may point to the absence of such sympathetic response, on the part even of Conservative statesmen in England, to the suggestions of the Canadian Parliament that the "favoured nation" clauses should be terminated and preferential trade within the Empire established. In neglecting to notice these effectively, the Conservative leaders have, according to their greatest prophet, failed to do their duty. They have evidently forgotten the traditions of their party, and, if not, we are forced to the conclusion that to them the saying applies, "Inertness is conscious incapacity."

It may be that "the wish is father to the thought" in our case, but we very decidedly think that the period of Imperial inertness, so far as regards the Unity of the Empire, is coming to a close. As Mr. Laurier said, with the opening of the Ottawa Conference a new page has been opened in British

history. Lord Rosebery's cable message to the President, the Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, is the first proof that the vis inertiae of the Imperial Government is being overcome. The British premier is evidently anxious to learn the conclusions of the Conference and may possibly be waiting to shape his own course by them. We are not among those who believe that the first move towards closer union should come from the Colonies; such a doctrine is unworthy of the prestige of England. But if the combined self-governing Colonies, in Conference assembled, are sufficiently powerful; if the Colonial tail of the British Lion has become strong enough to wag the ponderous body of the animal, we must not object to this method of attaining satisfactory results, and of finally overcoming the power of Imperial Inertia.

A MISSION TO ENGLAND.

The Executive Committee of the Imperial Federation League in Canada has started a crusade in defence of the parent League in England. In a recent issue we reproduced the annual report in which it is maintained that the Council in London could not legally effect a dissolution of the League, that in fact the latter is still in existence, and that a delegation should be sent home to "re-organize" the Council. The League in Canada endorsed the report of its Executive Committee, and authorized it to send the delegation referred to. We understand that members have already been selected and are now on their way to England. Among them are the President and Secretary of the Canadian League, Mr. H. J. Wickham, Mr. James L. Hughes and other gentlemen resident in Toronto.

We must say that we heartily sympathise with the object of this crusade which is to rescue the League in England from the action of its half-dead Council. The deputation will no doubt first communicate with the very considerable minority in that body who voted against dissolution, and endeavour to secure the formation of a new Council, on a broader and more legitimate basis than the old one, such in fact as will give a proper share of influence to every branch of the League throughout the Empire.

The deputation is in possession of the deliberately expressed policy of the League in Canada as regards the basis of a British Commercial Union, and will certainly seek an opportunity of pressing it upon the consideration of the City of London Branch of the Imperial Federation League. Our readers are aware that that body, under the presidency of Sir John Lubbock, pronounced in favor of a Commercial Union, but in such indefinite terms as to make even people in England doubt the good faith of the proposal. In proof of this we quote the following expressions from the St. James' Gazette in August last: "Free Traders will rejoice in Sir John Lubbock's declaration at the meeting of the City Branch of the Imperial Federation League. He is 'all for a Zollverein, he says, but it must be founded not on the customs duties but on the absence of them. If Sir John meant Free Trade as with-in the British Empire and Protection as against the rest of the world, he would carry with him a strong body of supporters in our leading Colonies—he might even hope so far as they are concerned to see the scheme adopted and matured. But he does not mean anything of the sort. His idea is that the Colonies should adopt their own system of Free Trade, abstaining even from retaliation. This may be good doctrine, but to Australia and Canada it looks like suicidal 'unselfishness. Nor is there yet any sign of those colonies coming round to Cobdenism.'"

Such expressions as these fully justified our Executive Committee in pausing to consider what the Lubbock proposal meant, and correspondence with its sponsor resulted in utterly shaking the confidence which federationists on this side were disposed to place in it. Usually, when a British Commercial Union is mooted, it is at once taken to mean, on the one hand, free trade betwixt the various parts of the Empire, and on the other, a tariff of some description discriminating against foreign nations. But it seems that such a definition of a Commercial Union is unsatisfactory to those political economists who have advocated the greatest possible freedom of trade between nations. It seems that the free-traders idea of Commercial Union is unrestricted commerce not only between the integral parts of the same federation, but between such aggregated communities and all the outside world as well. If such is really their conception of a Commercial Union, it is one of those

unrealisable combinations that have had no existence in the past and do not seem possible in the future. No wonder that the League in Canada in considering Sir John Lubbock's circular insisted upon adding a clause proposing "the imposition of a small extra duty on foreign imports, with few exceptions, to provide funds for Imperial Defence," and we sincerely trust that the delegation may be able to persuade the London Branch to adopt this amendment.

It is not unlikely that the delegation will also endeavour to press the amendment upon the consideration of the United Empire Trade League, which was founded several years ago by Col. C. E. Howard Vincent for the advocacy of preferential trade between the British possessions. There are we fear too many different associations all seeking to attain the same object by different means. It would be a happy result of the efforts of the delegates from the Canadian League if they could persuade all these associations to adopt one and the same plan for the establishment of a United British Empire.

ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

The results of the Provincial elections, while gratifying, probably, to the Opposition, as placing Sir Oliver Mowat's Government in a very embarrassing position, cannot be said to afford much comfort to the party machine in politics. Sir Oliver stated at the banquet in Toronto to the Colonial Delegates, that he had no love for third parties in political affairs, but we venture the opinion that nothing in Canadian public affairs is so urgently demanded, in the interests of the people, as an element in our legislative bodies which will treat all proposed legislation on its merits aside from the interests of any particular party. We believe that in proportion as the heel of the party machine is felt that many parties will arise, under the keenest sense of injustice, and demand from political leaders their rights.

The Patrons of Industry movement is in the main good in its aims and objects, and we hope to see it a growing power in Canada, feeling sure that the very life of Canadian progress is bound up with a prosperous agricultural population. Their danger is, in their zeal for their own interests, to do the very thing they condemn in the manufacturing class,—forget that all classes and interests have to be studied in a wise statesmanship, and that purely sectional interest can be pushed too far, and overlook or forget that the general public good is the first desideratum.

Sir Oliver has had for so many years the cuteness to know where and how votes could be had in his support, he will know how to spread his sails for all such breezes—and like the Vicar of Bray, he will adapt himself to every change of political circumstances, and give all that opponents demand when defeat stares him in the face.

GENERAL HERBERT.

The action of Gen. Herbert in suspending Adjutant-General Powell, of the Militia and Defence Department, has been one of the sensations of the day. In Parliament and outside it has been the subject of adverse criticism of so strong a character that—coupled with the statement to the House of Commons by the Minister of the Department—that, in his judgment, the offence of Adjutant-General Powell was not so grave as to justify his suspension, the General has been commanded to re-instate him in office. As Major S. Hughes, M.P., remarked, if the conduct complained of were a serious military offence he should have been arrested, and if a purely civil offence it was fairly open to question whether such severe action as suspension was justifiable from the facts.

The last time General Herbert aired himself before the public notice was in his very questionable official utterances in regard to the Canadians who served as Papal Zouaves. He then, as well as at other times, expressed his rigid views of military discipline, and seemingly he has applied them in this instance with more zeal than discretion.

Gen. Herbert cannot be said to be happy in his selections of examples illustrating his own idea of devotion to military duty and discipline. When he seeks to praise he has to ignore all the great examples of soldierly virtue in ancient and modern history, and select those fiery religious zealots who went from Canada to uphold and fasten on the necks of the Italians one of the most oppressive tyrannies over a liberty loving people which modern history has made known; and when he con-

demns he selects an old, tried and faithful departmental officer as his victim, and for the atrocious offence of not being so scrupulous about the forms of red-tapeism as the General demands.

Tact and discretion are equally virtues in a soldier, and it appears these qualities are wanting in Gen. Herbert's hour of need; and while he can play the politician in praising Papal Zouaves in Quebec, he loses his head and temper when confronted with a simple violation of some red tape formality.

The Survival of the Fittest.

Some very interesting reading may be got from a list of facts and figures recently published in the Cleveland, (U.S.) Leader, relating to pauperism in that city. They plainly show that the most desirable nationalities in the United States are English, Scotch, Welsh and Canadians, there being no paupers among them, and they are more independent, energetic and thrifty than any other nationalities. This is satisfactory reading for Englishmen, for with most other nationalities it seems to be innate for them to give up and cry out for help the moment adversity confronts them. Especially do the Poles, the Italians, and the Irish vie with each other in casting themselves upon the charity of the country. In Cleveland last year, the Italians assisted were just half as many as the English, and yet there are twenty times as many Britons as Italians. That is the case wherever the Englishman takes up his abode. If hard work, persistence and untiring energy, both in body and brain, will carry a man anywhere, the Englishman is going to get there, and there he is going to stay, showing at once that not only in the United States, but everywhere else, the Englishman is the most desirable immigrant.

In Canada, which offers so many advantages and such wide scope for energy and ability, we want to collect together as much of that energy and ability as we possibly can, not only for our own special benefit as Englishmen, but for the good of the country at large. To do this we must keep hand in hand and show our capabilities, and get the results of our unity disseminated, as it is destined to be, all over the wide world. Then, when our Old Country brethren see the bounteous fruits of our labors and the solidity of our standing—and we are gaining ground every day—they will come over and join us in greater numbers than ever. No one knows what he can do if he tries so well as an Englishman, and no nationality can get ahead of him however hard he tries. It is a pure and simple question of the survival of the fittest.

Trade With Great Britain.

London, July 11.—The British imports from Canada have increased £604,000, or 40 per cent. in the past six months, as compared with the same period of 1893.

The chief increases are: Sheep £18,000; bacon £57,000; hams, £5000; butter, £3000; cheese, £38,000; eggs, £1500; fish, £278,000; wood, £260,000.

Exports from Great Britain to Canada during the same period decreased 28 per cent.

For June alone the imports increased 25 per cent., and the exports decreased 37 per cent.

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