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TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1901.

THE SITUATION.

The meeting of the royal personages in Europe is likely to bear good fruit in the interest of peace. The Kaiser, the other day, volunteered to the people of Dantzic that, as a result of his conversation with the Emperor of Russia, the peace of Europe was assured for many years. The form in which the understanding between the two Emperors was put is stated, on the authority of rumor, to be that there shall be a truce of ten years, during which neither Russia nor Germany will voluntarily engage in war. It would be too much to assume that, as a result of this understanding, the peace of Europe is certainly secured for ten years. If either nation were to engage in war before that time, it would be easy for it to say, and it might be expected to excuse itself in that way, that it was unwillingly dragged into the contest. But an agreement of the nature mentioned, between the two powerful sovereigns, would have a wholesome restraining effect, and might go far to secure a long peace. The Russo-French alliance is defended by the Czar and President Loubet, of the French Republic, on the ground that it makes for peace; nevertheless we do not hear that the understanding between the Czar and the Emperor has gone further or is likely to take a tripartite form. Two heads of State, who wield a large share of despotic power, can make agreements, which would require popular consent if made by the head of a Republic; the same is true of a constitutional sovereign. It is quite possible that, when they meet, the Czar and our King Edward may have equally agreed in the sentiment of peace, though the head of a nation in which Parliament is the predominant power, could not seal the understanding so decisively as Czar and Emperor are reported to have done. Great Britain, however, might be relied on to agree to any reasonable understanding for securing the peace of Europe.

Hon. Mr. Ross, Premier of Ontario, in giving an account of his recent visit to England, admits once

more that it would be reasonable for Canada to contribute towards the defence of the Empire of which she is part, nevertheless tells us how he argued in conversation there the other way. "The only fear of attack Canada had," he had said, "was from the United States, and Canada was not going to quarrel with the United States. If there was any quarrel it would be between the Motherland and the United States, and why should Canada pay for the expense of a quarrel to which she was not a party?" It is unsafe to put arguments into the mouths of men who are opposed to our own views; and Mr. Ross may some day find the inconvenience of it. Besides, he assumes, by way of prediction, as a fact, what no human being can guarantee. Canada, it is true, has no intention of quarrelling with the United States; but it by no means follows that Canada might never be a cause of quarrel between Great Britain and the United States. The yellow journals of the Republic would make Canada a cause of quarrel if they could; in 1837--38, Canada was near to bringing the two countries into collision; in the Fenian raid, Canada, jointly with England, was a cause of the trouble; it is quite possible that Canada might in future be a cause of quarrel between Great Britain and the United States; admit that it is improbable, improbability does not make certainty. We think it is unfortunate that this language used by Mr. Ross was uttered; if he used it as arguments are used in debating societies, as he seems to have done, somebody else may be convinced by and repeat it, tending to defeat the policy which he himself thinks ought to prevail.

By the Trades Congress, at Brantford, two resolutions were passed which directly conflict with one another. One declares true patriotism to be international; another asks the expulsion of alien laborers. Patriotism is a love of country, of one country, and cannot be made to include more; cosmopolitanism is the reverse of patriotism. The congress, moreover, declared the population of Canada to be cosmopolitan; if it were, it would not be patriotic; it would have no love for one country more than another. The common ground on which the mixed population of Canada meets, and unites is Canadian, and not cosmopolitan. If the population of Canada were cosmopolitan there would be no aliens. This the congress did not admit; and it showed the liberality of its cosmopolitanism by calling upon the Department of Labor to assume the deportation of aliens. The congress here shows itself to be national, and in a dubious sense patriotic, forgetting its boasted cosmopolitanism the moment its own interests appear to look the other way. It went so far as to display jealousy of sex rivalry in the fields of labor by deprecating women acting as barmaids. There may be, and we think are, good reasons why they should not so act; but these reasons have nothing to do with the male jealousy, which suggests the restriction of this employment to men.

The generous act of Mr. and Mrs. Goldwin-Smith in donating \$10,000 to the University of Toronto, for the use of the library, deserves to be signalized as an example which we may reasonably hope to see followed in future. Benedictions of this kind are generally confined to denominational institutions. It is reasonable to sup-