

## THE INTER-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.



OTWITHSTANDING that the sessions of the Provincial Conference in Quebec have been strictly private, it goes without saying that GRIP knows all that has transpired. To prove this he submits a full report of a sample session:

The delegates assembled at the usual hour, Hon. Mr. Mowat in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Mercier—Before proceeding to ze beesness of ze day, Monsieur le Chairman, may I make to enquire 'ow you have enjoyed ze reception of las' evening?

Hon. Mr. Mowat—I may say at once that is a question which, upon every ground, deserves an answer. I would not, however, care to commit myself before looking into the matter further. I will take it into my earnest consideration. Perhaps some other member of the Conference is prepared with a statement.

Hon. Mr. Hardy—Mercier, my boy, I don't hesitate to say the whole affair was bully. You are a brick, Honoré, and Madame Mercier is even more so. You may tell her so, with my compliments.

Hon. Mr. Norquay—Hear! hear!

Hon. Mr. Blair—My sentiments exactly. In fact, I beg to move—

Hon. Mr. Mowat—I don't think a motion will be necessary. A show of hands would undoubtedly meet the case. Those who are in agreement with Mr. Hardy's opinion, please make it manifest. Contrary, if any? Carried unanimously.

Hon. Mr. Mercier—Merci, messeurs.

Hon. Mr. Mowat—Seeing the trend of public opinion on the subject, I have now arrived at a conclusion myself. I am prepared now to state that I enjoyed the reception very much.

Hon. Mr. Fielding—Is this business strictly within the limits of the Conference?

Hon. Mr. Mowat—As preliminary to a good understanding amongst the Provinces, yes. We will now proceed to other affairs. The special subject for the present session is Disallowance. What action does the Conference propose to take on this important point?

Hon. Mr. Norquay—I can speak from experience on this point. My opinion is that Sir John A. Macdonald should be amended.

Hon. Mr. Pardee—The Constitution, you mean.

Hon. Mr. Fraser—Same thing.

Hon. Mr. Norquay—Of course I meant to say the Constitution. I think the veto power ought to be abolished.

Hon. Mr. Hardy—I object. I think the power of disallowance ought to be retained and used as often as possible by Tory Federal Governments against Tory Provincial Governments. It tends to make Grits of the latter.

Hon. Mr. Mowat—Very true, but we mustn't do evil that good may come.

Hon. Mr. Pardee—To my mind, it's just like this. So long as the disallowance power remains at Ottawa, Sir John will use it for his own ends. Now we must either abolish it or Sir John.

Hon. Mr. Blair—I move that we abolish Sir John.

Hon. Mr. Ross—The same end would be attained if we could manage to make him truly good. He wouldn't

then do wrong. It seems harsh to abolish him, so I move in amendment that we send the W. C. T. U. ladies in a deputation to convert him.

Hon. Mr. Mercier—As ze hour is arrive for ze drive to Montmorency, I move ze Conference to adjourn.

The motion was carried and the Conference arose.

## FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS.

FACES will be worn long this winter—by coal consumers. Defalcations by persons in positions of trust will remain fashionable.

There is no prospect of any change in the *habits* of society.

The most taking wedding costume for young ladies this season is a check from the old gentleman.

Poodle dogs will continue to be worn.

The young gentlemen who have heretofore "put their whole salaries on their backs" will, it is reported, clothe the rest of their persons this winter.



## HUGH'S OBVIOUS LEANING.

(APROPÓS OF THE GREAT DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY IN MONTREAL.)

SIR,—The animus of the *Star* is not difficult to discover. We are told that both sides of the question would be given, but what do we find? Is there one letter giving the faults and shortcomings of servants? Not one. Is there one letter bearing evidence of coming from a mistress who knows anything of the real troubles and trials of housekeepers? Not one!—*Correspondent Montreal News*.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN is in Chicago leading the anarchists. He proposes to rescue the condemned prisoners if they are led to the scaffold. This Train badly needs a conductor—and a straight jacket.

We have received the first number of the *Canadian Advance*, with which is incorporated the *Parkdale News*. The new paper is published by Veigh & Co., and will endeavor to fill the field of non-sectarian Christian journalism. The Sunday evening sermons of Rev. Dr. Wild are to be a feature of the *Advance*. We wish our new contem. success.