

trade preference of twenty per cent. as against foreign countries. Jamaica will not, at present, come into this reciprocity agreement, fearing that its trade with the United States would suffer. The congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, which recently met in London, favoured not only this trade compact, but also a close political union between the West Indies, Canada and Newfoundland; and it adopted a resolution in favour of preferential trade within the Empire, which is now the announced policy of the opposition in the British Parliament.

The Premier of Canada and members of his Cabinet who went to England to consult the British Government in respect to the naval policy of the Dominion, were most cordially received wherever they appeared in public. Our Premier's request that Canada shall be represented in the councils of the Empire will, if it is granted, mark an epoch in the history of the British Empire—one might almost say in the history of the world. Just what the Canadian Government will propose to parliament will not, of course, be known until parliament meets. It is known, however, that the danger of the outbreak of war with Germany is very great, and that more ships are needed. Over three hundred ships of war, perhaps the strongest fleet the world has ever seen, gathered at Spithead for inspection by the Lords and Commons of the British Parliament and the Canadian ministers; but the German fleet has of late been increasing more rapidly than ours, and is still increasing.

The British Government, which now owns all the telegraph and telephone lines in the United Kingdom, will soon have its own wireless telegraph around the world. There will be six stations erected by the Marconi Company; one in England, one in Australia, one in India, one at Port Said, and probably one in South Africa and one at Hong Kong. We have already one at Glace Bay, and there will probably be another on the Pacific Coast. These stations will be fortified, and in time of war will be solely under government control.

For nearly a hundred years—to be exact, for eighty-three years—there has been an understanding between Great Britain and the United States of America that the Panama Canal, when it was built, was to be open on equal terms to all the nations of the world. By the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, this was definitely stated; and the two governments entered into an equal partnership of control, with equal rights as to traffic, in any canal that might be constructed between the two oceans. By the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, at present in force, Great Britain waived her rights to control, allowing the United States to build and control the canal on condition that the canal should be free and open to the vessels of all nations on terms of entire equality. A bill before the United States Senate, by which it is proposed to discriminate in favour of United States shipping, has called forth a protest from the British Government; and the Premier of Australia has notified the Home Government that the Commonwealth joins in the protest.

The International Geological Congress, which held its last meeting in Sweden, will meet this month in Toronto.

It is expected that nearly every civilized country in the world will send delegates to this congress. The principal topic of discussion will be the world's supply of coal.

Captain Mikkelsen, the Danish explorer who started in 1910 to cross Greenland, has been rescued after terrible hardships. He and his only companion had been waiting the appearance of a vessel for over eighteen months, and had given up all hope of rescue. They found the records of an earlier explorer who had perished in the Arctic wilds.

When the new Persian railroad is built, it will be possible to go from London to India in eight days.

A woman has been elected to sit in the Diet of Bohemia, and the courts have confirmed her right to the seat.

There are so few flies in Bavaria that they cannot be regarded as a pest. This is due to the extreme cleanliness of Bavarian cities.

Pneumatic tires are now made of chemically treated and compressed paper. They are strong, elastic, waterproof and cheap.

A new explosive, twice as powerful as dynamite, and much safer to handle, is called imperialite.

In France it is proposed to place a heavy tax upon unsightly bill boards, and upon the land on which they are erected.

In the Olympic games, which have taken place this year at Stockholm, the American athletes won high honours. A Sac Indian from the Carlisle Indian school, proved himself the best all-round athlete in a competition which was open to the world. The walking match was won by a Canadian; and a South African was first, and another South African second, in the great Marathon race.

The Turkish ministry has announced in the Chamber of Deputies that it will enter into peace negotiations with Italy, but the military leaders, who have been demanding a dissolution of parliament, may not agree to the terms of peace.

The revolutions in Cuba and Mexico are practically at an end, though there are still bands of rebels in the field. The Mexican authorities are taking extraordinary measures for the suppression of brigandage, but there is no group of rebels or brigands that can well be called an army, nor sufficient unity of purpose to make the uprising any longer serious. In Nicaragua there is a new rebellion that seems to threaten the overthrow of the government.

The efforts of Yuan Shi Kai to form a new ministry in China are opposed by the National Assembly, and there is talk of a military dictatorship, from which the southern part of the country would possibly secede to form a new republic.

The Emperor of Japan, who has ruled his country for more than forty years, died last week and was quietly succeeded by his son. It is not expected that the change of rulers will make any serious change in the foreign relations of Japan. The new emperor, whose name is Yoshihito, is highly respected by his people.

Ex-President Roosevelt, having failed to secure the nomination of the Republican party at Chicago, a new