

" It may be found that a reversal of our fiscal policy is neither possible nor desirable. Something may be done to gratify sentiment. I may cite as an example the lowering of duties of wines from Australia and the Cape.

" Pending a conference on tariffs let us lose no opportunity of helping one another by every possible means. Swift communication is a bond of Empire. If more liners are needed and higher subsidies are demanded, let the charge for subsidies be shared in with no grudging spirit by the Mother Land. Let us do all we can to help one another in difficulties. Let us freely consult on Imperial policy.

" Having already the essential bond of a resolve, a firm resolve, to stand together, come whatever may, it is doubtful wisdom to hurry forward organic change. It has been suggested that a Council of the Empire might be evolved out of the Privy Council. If constituted, who would be its members, what would be its duties, what its powers? The Council must be in a position analagous to that of the Committee on Foreign affairs of the Senate of the United States. It must also deal with defence. To take from the House of Commons, which has to make all the necessary financial provision, the control it at present exercises over foreign policy and defensive preparations, is a change of vast importance, and one to which consent cannot readily be given. Changes must evidently be the work of time—perhaps