

Boards would be desirable in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, India, Africa, the West Indies, and elsewhere. All the Boards should consist of representative and independent public men, whose duty it would be to obtain for dissemination over the Empire accurate information and unbiassed opinions on all subjects of general interest; the information so obtained would be cabled daily or weekly as may be determined to the London Board and to all the branch Boards for publication. Some such organisation would become a most potent Imperial agency. It would prove to be an invaluable means of educating our people everywhere respecting the life, opinions, and aspirations of all our fellow-subjects in the several parts of the Empire. It would directly place before each section of the British world the views formed or forming in all other sections. Two hours a day would easily admit of 10,000 or 12,000 words being transmitted each week. This full volume of news published simultaneously in the chief centres of the Empire would have a wonderful influence. The good to result from a mutual interchange of information and sentiment is beyond calculation. Obviously it would steadily have a unifying tendency if every day in the year the pulsations of the great heart of the motherland could be felt by kith and kin beyond the seas, and if also every man within as well as without the central kingdom could read in his morning paper the same sympathetic evidences of interest in the common welfare, and all fresh from his fellow-subjects in all quarters of the globe."

Whatever diversity of opinion may be developed as to the best way of managing such a service and of preparing the statements that may be issued from day to day or from week to week for the information of the various parts of the British Empire, there could be no doubt as to the desirability of some such department as is here proposed. The system of cables would be of the greatest value in connection with the extension of commerce between the countries thus related, and even from this point of view would seemingly prove a profitable investment, as, according to evidence submitted in the Parliamentary Return, the charges for oversea messages by the great circle of Empire Cables would be greatly reduced. In addition to the commercial value of the scheme it would serve, as has been said, to make the different parts of the Empire more intimately acquainted with each other, so that with increasing mutual knowledge there might come increased confidence, closer correspondence of national ideals with growing unity of purpose and of life.

The testimony on this point that is given in the paper before us

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