

The Imperial Conference has defined officially the autonomy actually enjoyed by the Dominions.

Our Prime Minister, the Right Hon. Mackenzie King, has expressed, with deep gratification, his belief that the conclusions of the Imperial Conference are a sure presage of greater harmony among the different Dominions, and he has added that if the Conference has produced no great changes, it has certainly let other countries know more clearly than ever the real conditions existing among the various parts of the Empire. Our autonomy in our own affairs is absolute, and is recognized as such. This freedom of action in our own house does not diminish in the least our great respect and affection for Great Britain and the other Dominions.

Our external relations, our freedom of action in the international field, in no wise affect our internal Constitution, which is written indelibly and permanently and cannot be changed in the slightest degree except with the unanimous consent of the legislatures of all the provinces of Canada. We have our Canadian courts to determine questions of law in certain controversies which may arise among the provinces. It is futile to arouse fears on the subject of the rights of Catholic or other minorities, or on the subject of bilingual rights. All these rights are immune from attack.

Canada's representative, our Right Hon. Prime Minister, and his adviser and collaborator, the Hon. Minister of Justice, are certainly deserving of our high esteem and hearty congratulations for their attitude at the Conference, where they seemed to dominate the situation and won the respect and admiration of their associates from Great Britain and the other Dominions, as we have seen by the gracious tributes appearing in the entire British press.

Let me add a final word. The Sixtieth Anniversary of Confederation is to be worthily celebrated in 1927, we are assured in the Speech from the Throne. No Canadian is more highly gratified than myself to learn of this decision on the part of the Government. Hitherto the formation of this Dominion has not been commemorated with the splendour necessary to inspire our youth with great respect for the work of the Fathers of Confederation. Upon the rising generation will devolve the duty of governing this country, and it will be their task to govern it in accordance with the traditions of our founders. Let us encourage our youth along the right path, in love of our country, which has already attracted the admiration of many nations of the world, and which, with the United States,

has a special mission to accomplish towards the peoples of the Orient, with whom we should have the most friendly relations in the years to come.

The Government are to be highly commended upon their action in extending an invitation to the Prince of Wales to visit Canada on the occasion of our Diamond Jubilee. We look upon him as not only our future King, but also a Canadian citizen. I am pleased, too, that the Prime Minister of Great Britain has been invited to come to Canada. I earnestly hope that they will both be able to pay us a visit on this occasion.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Honourable gentlemen, I promise to detain you but a short time with the remarks that I have to make in respect of this motion. First of all, I would like to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the Address on what they have had to say. Particularly do I refer to the remarks of the mover, as it happens that I more clearly understood him than I did the seconder. If there was anything wrong in the remarks of the seconder of the Address I may have to take him to task at some other time, when I see his words restated in my own language.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My honourable friend may be sure that he supported Maritime Rights.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: I am glad to hear that; that will cover a multitude of sins.

The remarks of the mover of the Address were particularly pleasing to me, both in regard to their contents and the spirit in which they were given. It was a perfectly fair speech; it could not have been fairer if delivered from this side than it was as delivered from his own. The remarks that he had to make with regard to the harvest and the condition of things in the West were certainly pleasing. As I understand from the newspapers, and from the remarks of the mover, the wheat crop of the West is safe for the year; at least enough of it to make the revenues this year as good as they were last year; which is very satisfactory to know.

We know that there has been great development in paper and pulp, and at least a fair year in lumber and fishing, and a great development in the mining regions in Northern Ontario and Northern Quebec. Along with that there has been a pretty large and growing export of manufactured goods. All of this is satisfactory and pleasing to every man, no matter what his party politics may be. I am glad to find that that is the