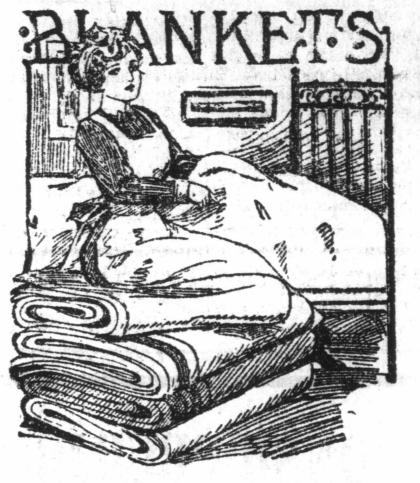
THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, OCTOBER 28, 1916-5.



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han good. These considerations would India behave in the event incurred have been fair enough. a final settlement, but as definite Good Sellers! he is assisting us to fight the Great Britain was involved?" even conditions in that country, and tween the two parties there re-

## IADLL INDIA AND THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

## A Quarterly Review of the Politics of the British Empire=-Republished Under the Above Heading

THE future historian will prob-ttive Council in an imperial quesably treat September 22, 1915, tion, although the ultimate deas a date of uncommon import- cision of His Majesty's Governance in the constitutional devel- ment must necessarily depend opment of India. On that day a largely on the attitude of other non-official Indian Member of the members of the Conference. Legislative Council of the Gov- Such an assurance Lord Hardernor-General moved a resolution inge thought eminently satisfacrecommending that representa- tory as showing due consideration tion should be made to His Ma- for the claims of India. He trustjesty's Government that India ed that when right moment arshould in future be officially re- rived the Governments of the selfpresented in the Imperial Confer- governing Dominions would also ence. Not merely on the ground view the question in a generous of the magnitude of her interests and statesmanlike manner. After affected, the mover claimed that several Indian members had India should in justice have a spoken the resolution was carried voice in Imperial deliberations: he by a unanimous vote. It is mani urged that the part she had play- fest that the motion expressed the ed in the present war showed that feelings of all classes in the counshe was actually worthy to exer- try who were interested in the cise the privilege for which she matter, and that the Governasked. The Viceroy, who spoke ment's attitude and Lord Hardimmediately after the mover, an-linge's announcement gave deep

nounced that his Government and genuine satisfaction. gladly accepted the resolution. For a dependency such as India and, if the Council adopted it, is, however populous and importwould readily take action upon it. ant, thus whole-heartedly to main-Indeed, he went further, and dis- tain its right to share in deliberaclosed the fact that the proposal tions in which only the self-govhad already been considered sym- erning nations of the Empire have pathetically by His Majesty's Min- hitherto participated implies a reisters. "I am authorized," said markable growth in the political Lord Hardinge, "by His Majesty's self-respect of its people, and a Government, while preserving strong expectation also that their full liberty of judgment and others will regard them in a new without committing them to prin- and favourable light. No ordinciples or details, to give an under- ary cause could have worked such taking that an expression of opin- effects. They are, in fact, the reion from this Imperial Legislative sult of the world-wide war and of Council, in the sense of the resolu- the part which India has played in tion that is now before us, will re- it.

ceive most careful consideration on their part, as expressing the

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legitimate interests of the Legisla- IN any attempt to describe the effect which the war has had on India, it must be remembered that the struggle is not yet over, and

no one can forecast its future

greatest struggle in which we ever those who know the country best without warning and advice we have been or are likely to be en- would have found it difficult to should probably have been too gaged with a whole-heartedness give an assured reply. In their slow in adjusting our methods to and devotion that calls for most hearts, indeed, they might have meet them. But perhaps some of generous acknowledgment. That trusted that war, being a great those who reproach us are not imis the cardinal fact which not searcher out of the minds of men, mune themselves. They wanted a merely disappointed our enemies, would show that India valued the new heaven and earth at once but surprised the world: no deduc- Raj more than she knew, and more The trouble was of a kind that no tions that it might be possible to than the speeches of some of her Government action could directly make in a nice summing up of the public men implied. Such a trust meet. The King's visit did much total account should be allowed would, in fact, have been based to intensify the personal loyalty for one instant to obscure our per- on a conviction of the broad mere of India to the Crown; but ception or dim our realization of its of our rule, which our critics could do little to bring officials the main truth. We should be un- during two decades have been in- and educated Indians to a real un just to India, and should do our clined to belittle; and in propor derstanding. In general the Eng own cause no good either with tion as the observer permitted his lishman stood fast by his owr her or in the face of the enemy, if thoughts to stray from the main standards, and could not heartily through sedulous anxiety to omit truths about our position in India rejoice whenever efficiency as h no detail of the picture we per- to the criticisms which have help- understood it was impaired in at mitted the shortcomings of the id to obscure them, his doubts tempts to do things more as th very few to impair our recogni- would have increased about the Indians wished them done. No inswer to the question. There had particular concessions mad. tion of the achievement of the

need be no hesitation in admitting to Indian opinion sufficed to satvery many. that many of the criticisms which isfy the advanced Indian. He wel-Eighteen months ago if the our administration in India has comed them, not by any means as question had been asked. "How

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mained a definite and honest dif-Outport Store keepers are corference of opinion, coupled with dially invited to write for prices some misunderstanding of each on the following goods which are other's motives, on which it is needless to dwell, and some harsh A 1 sellers with the St. John's feelings which that misunderstand trade: ing caused. Remembering these PURE GOLD JELLY

things, a modest-minded witness, POWDER. however sure he might feel about the great majority of the people, PURE night have felt some doubt what

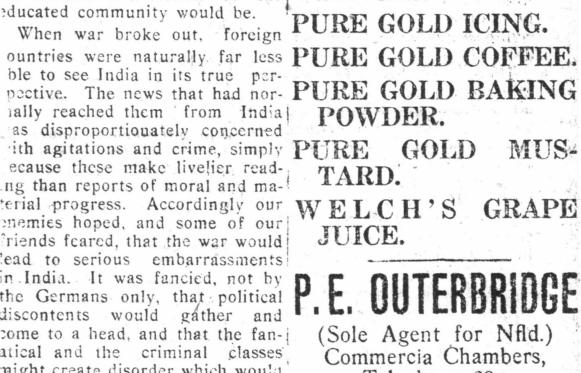
SENCES. the attitude of a section of the educated community would be. When war broke out, foreign

ble to see India in its true perpective. The news that had nor- PURE GOLD BAKING ally reached them from India as disproportionately concerned ith agitations and crime, simply PURE GOLD MUSecause these make livelier readng than reports of moral and ma-

terial progress. Accordingly our WELCH'S GRAPE enemies hoped, and some of our friends feared, that the war would lead to serious embarrassments

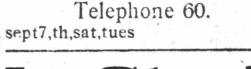
in India. It was fancied, not by D the Germans only, that political discontents would gather and come to a head, and that the fan-i atical and the criminal classes might create disorder which would prevent our sending troops to France, even if it did not shake our hold upon the country and endanger the lives of English men In Stock and women. It was imagined that placid villages might be startled by news of disasters magnified by rumour and see in them the fulfilment of prophecies of the downfall of the Raj; and that every desperate or broken man, who had a private wrong to requite or debts unpaid, might spread the word that the Germans were coming and each should help himself. and that the floodgates of panic and anarchy would be opened. In and to arrive by S. S. Graciana particular some people supposed that if Turkey were lured into the war on the enemy's side, reverence for the Sultan as spiritual head of Islam would embitter the feelings of seventy millions of Mohammedans towards the Allied Powers. and sorely strain their loyalty to their own temporal sovereign.

interests have been affected, the peasants of India have taken the Phone 469. war with indifference, and shown



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course with confidence. Statements as to the attitude of India to the war must be taken with an implied reservation that no unforeseen and catastrophic change of fortune occurs. But this is not all. To discuss the thoughts of a people who are at war is in a measure to handle the material of war itself. Here in England has been borne in upon us the unwisdom of either exaggerated optimism or austere truth-telling about the mind of the people or the effort which it is making to win the war. Excess of eulogy may lull, or excess of criticism may dissipate, energies that should be bent to when our premiums are so low, the supreme purpose. On the whole there is little doubt which way the wise man's balance will incline. A good heart is of the very essence of victory, and therefore it is wise to give the people the full measure of credit they deserve. But criticism should always be tempered by remembrance that it may do more harm

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