

it cannot fail to interest us. In order to indicate the parallel between the two constitutions it will be found convenient to deal with the various subjects under their different headings.

The Act of Union.—Parliament was called for March 30th to consider a draft of the constitution, which is in the form of an Act of the Imperial Parliament, similar to that of Canada and of Australia. Before the Act of Union can take effect it must not only be passed by the Imperial Parliament, but two or more of the present self-governing colonies must agree to enter the union, either by an Act of their Parliament or by resolutions passed by both Houses of their Parliaments.

The Governor-General and the Council.—The Governor-General is to be appointed before the establishment of the Union, and he will summon a ministry to govern until, at least, the first general election. The Cabinet Council is to consist of ten persons, holding office during the pleasure of the Governor-General, under British constitutional conditions.

Parliament.—The Union Parliament is to consist of the King, and two Houses—the Senate, and the House of Assembly. The Governor-General may dissolve one or both Houses simultaneously, but he may not dissolve the Senate during the period of ten years after the establishment of the Union. The Senate is to consist of eight nominated members and eight members elected by each province. Half of the nominated senators are to represent the coloured people, but no coloured man may sit in the federal Parliament. The Senate cannot dissolve for ten years, but at the end of this period it may be reconstituted by Parliament. The House of Assembly is to consist of 121 members, as follows: The Cape, 51; Transvaal, 36; Natal, 17; Orange River Colony, 17. Members are to be paid £300 a year. In the event of a deadlock between the Senate and the House of Assembly the two Houses will be convened together, and the majority of the combined Houses may pass the bill. The Canadian method of a "conference" between the two Houses may be less troublesome, but has neither the definiteness nor finality of the South African procedure. The usual provisions are made for the royal veto.