

SHOP EARLY---you know the lighting regulations---SHOP EARLY

Andersons' Specials for this Week



Coatings!
Among our LATEST FALL OPENINGS you'll find some heavy Coatings For your **New Coat** in shades of **Brown, Black, Royal Blue, Red, Black & Red Check, Purple & Black Check.**
\$3.00 yd.

Ladies' Collars of every style
Sailor with Lace Edge, Accordion Pleated, Military, Black and White Stripe, Cerise and White Stripe. Collars that appeal to Women of taste. Made of very fine Voile..... **12c.**



Ladies' Muffs
A special offering of **Astrachan Muffs**—Lined with **Satin**—Extra large. Colors: **Navy, Black, Saxe.** All going at this Special Price:
\$1.25
You'll find some with a heavy Silk Cord to hold it in the hand.

LADIES' VELVET HATS
In the Best of Velvets—THE CORDUROY. They embrace such stylish colors—Cerise, Rose, Green, Cream; also Brown, Black, and Navy.
All Latest Small Models
Going at this Special Price:
89c.
8c. extra for postage.
State your Colour.

LADIES' Silk Scarves
In Colors: Olive Green, Purple, and Prune—2½ yards long, ½ yard wide. A 60c. 35c. Scarf. Now.....

Ladies' Ice Wool Scarves
In a Cream and Brown Mixture extra good value, 65c. 35c. Now.....

For the Children

LINEN PINAFORES
In **BROWN, PINK AND BLUE,** with designs stamped for working. **Special, 17 cents**

RUBBER FEEDERS
With a pocket to catch the crumbs—and a dainty design painted on the center with suitable word—17c.

BIBS
Honeycomb Towel Bibs that will stand any washing—wording "Baby Boy" worked in center—will stand 9c. any washing.....

Night Dresses
In Fine White Lawn with Embroidery front and collar. Different sizes. **35c. to 50c.**

PETHICOATS
For the Children in Cream and Pink Flannelette with White Lawn body. **30c.**

Linen Dresses
In light and dark Blue and Brown Linen—a design stamped on the front—ready for working. **40c.**

Jump for these BARGAINS.

Handkerchiefs
In plenty, of Fine Lawn—stitched—Ladies' size. Have a dozen, only 30c.
3c. Each

TOWELS by the pound
In Pure White Turkish. Any size Towel only half the price of pair Towels.

CUSHION TOPS
In Khaki—with Flowers worked and wording such as "Last Rose of Summer," etc. 18 x 18 inches..... **10c.**

Ladies' Hose
In Cashmere finish. All sizes—Seamless. **15c.**

DOILEY'S
Lemstitch one inch wide, drawn work in center and corners—Embroidered—of Fine Lawn..... **10c.**

TABLE MATS
Of Green, Brown, and Wine Color Felt, with design worked in center and border, 20c. Now..... **15c.**

SUITS! ---THAT APPEAL TO MEN OF TASTE---

Green Serge
—Very fine—Coats lined with fine Sateen, back pocket in Pants with button. **\$7.00.**

Grey Tweed
—With fine Green pin stripe—Coats padded and stitched, Vests of stylish single breasts. **\$9.00.**

Fine Dark Brown
—Double cuffs on Coat sleeve, padded and stitched. Pants cut and with right hang—extra strong pocketing. **\$11.50.**

Dark Grey Tweed
—With fine pin stripe—Vest pockets cut as latest style—watch pocket in Pants. **\$14.00.**

Dark Green
—With very fine stripe of Grey, Purple and Green mixture—Vests of stylish single breasts—Pants with two back pockets—Coats with shoulders padded and stitched. **\$15.00.**

Fine Brown Mixture
—Coats of latest single breasts—lined with very fine Sateen. **\$16.50.**

WASH TIES
In Light Grounds and Grey, Blue, Black or Brown Stripes of different widths. Extra strong—will stand any washing. **3 for 25 cents**

75c. SHIRTS
With Soft Collar attached—made of dark blue linen with small white spot, Soft Cuffs—all sizes. An ideal working Shirt. **for 49 cents**

CAPS for Winter Wear
Seasonable Caps with Invisible Ear Bands of Cloth lined with Flannel and Wadded. Why suffer with the cold? Have a Comfort Cap. In Greys, Browns and Greens; also Mixtures..... **80c. to \$2.00**
STATE YOUR SIZE WHEN SENDING.

Make Your Purchases while the Sun Shines.

THE ROUND TABLE INDIA AND THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

A Quarterly Review of the Politics of the British Empire—Republished Under the Above Heading

THUS far we have attempted to interpret India's request in the light of her own wishes and aspirations. But this is only half the story. If we are to appreciate the claim she makes in all its bearings, we must consider also what the Imperial Conference really is, and how far its constitution and the purpose for which it exists provide for the admission of India's representatives to its fold.

The Conference is not yet thirty years old. It has met in all six times, at intervals sufficiently long for the course of outside events to give on each occasion a definite bent to its proceedings; for which reason it is possible to sum up its history in no great space, without omitting anything material for our present purpose. The first Colonial Conference assembled in 1887, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's first Jubilee, and under the impulse of the colonial expansion of France and Germany. It was an informal gathering of Colonial representatives to deliberate on matters of common interest. It expressed a growing wish to promote the solidarity of the Empire without the faintest wish to alter its organization. "It was England's business to run the Empire as a whole, to conduct its foreign relations, to defend it from attack, to govern the Dependencies." The Colonies were invited to consider what contribution they could make in the defence of their own territories, and Australia undertook to contribute to the cost of an auxiliary squadron in Australian waters. Mr. Hofmeyr's proposal for an Imperial tariff for Imperial defence purposes was sympathetically received; but the Conference amounted to an informal discussion, the value of which lay rather in its giving definiteness to a common sentiment than in any positive attempt to translate that sentiment into action. India was neither represented nor referred to. The next meeting was summoned by the Canadian Government and was held at Ottawa in 1894. It busied itself with questions of trade and communications, and matters of defence and foreign policy, not to mention the Dependencies, were not discussed. This change illustrates the natural difference of view between the Mother Country, which was still responsible for the security of the whole Empire, and the Colonies, which were mainly concerned with their own self-development. By 1897 the partition of Africa, the advance of Russia to the East, the China-Japanese war, and the Jameson raid lent a new seriousness to Imperial problems which was reflected in the more responsible character of the Conference summoned in that year by Mr. Chamberlain and in the tentative proposals which he then put forward for an Imperial Council. But the Colonies still maintained their view that political relations should be left as they were, and that the surest way of consolidating Imperial interests lay along the line of commercial reciprocity. By the time the Conference of 1902 met the participation of Colonial troops in the Boer war had encouraged the belief at home that the Dominions were willing to share in the responsibilities of Empire, while in the Dominions themselves it had quickened the growth of a national spirit which, however unlikely to acquiesce in

definitely in the existing position, was by no means eager to accept any measures which offered them responsibility at the cost of freedom of action. Again the project of a Council was discussed and rejected; but it was agreed that Conferences between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Prime Ministers of the self-governing Colonies were beneficial and should be regularly held. Some of the Colonies undertook to increase their contributions to defence, but they definitely dissented from a deliberate policy of concentration, and resorted to commercial reciprocity as the sure and safe direction of advance.

By 1907 there was a further change. The older advocates of a union which should serve the purposes of defence and foreign policy had been convinced by hard facts that for the time being progress could only come along the line which the Dominions preferred. A Liberal Government was in power in England, averse to any increased expenditure on armament, but averse also to any departure from a policy of Free Trade in the direction of Imperial preference. On the other hand, its ready recognition of the Dominions' freedom of action assisted to allay suspicions that the Conference was intended as a device to render them subservient to the Mother Country. In these circumstances the chief result attained affected the constitution of the Conference itself. It now became the Imperial Conference, a consultation to be henceforth

held every four years between His Majesty's Government and the Governments of the self-governing Dominions beyond the seas. It was no longer a meeting of individuals, but a consultation of governments. This important change definitely established the status of the Dominions as partners in the common interests; and, though it set no future course of Imperial development except in the direction of continued cooperation, it finally destroyed the idea that union might possibly come by the gradual absorption of the Dominions in any representative institutions of the Mother Country.

The Conference of 1907 was further remarkable for the transient appearance of India in the arena of Imperial politics. Not only was the Secretary of State for India present, but, by special arrangement made by the Prime Minister, Sir James Mackay also attended the meetings of the Conference and addressed it on the question of preference in relation to the Indian economic position. His status in doing so was not made very clear. Lord Elgin said at the opening meeting: "If any question should arise with regard to India, you will have the advice of a most distinguished member of Council" (i.e., a member of the Secretary of State's Council). In the discussion that ensued about preference Sir James Mackay was generally referred to as to question his claim to speak in that capacity; and Lord Hardinge has since told us that he was present

"not as a member of the Conference, nor as the representative of India, but on behalf of the India Office and with a view to the representation of Indian interests." Sir James Mackay, we may conclude, was present to interpret to the Conference the interests of India as these appeared to the department at Whitehall which was responsible for preserving them. But, inasmuch as his views on the dominant question of preference coincided with those of the Home Government and were opposed to those of the Home Government and were opposed to those of the Dominion Ministers, the latter may be excused for feeling that his introduction required explanation.

By the time the last Imperial Conference assembled in 1911 the force of events caused the discussion to be directed chiefly to foreign policy and defence, and commercial issues were relatively in abeyance. No question was raised of India's representation; but on the eleventh day of session Lord Crewe, Secretary of State for India, attended, and addressed the Conference on the subject of promoting a better understanding between the self-governing Dominions and India.

From this summary certain conclusions stand out. Over the space of a quarter of a century there had been gradually evolved a truly Imperial deliberative assembly, the only body in the Empire which can, not indeed decide, but discuss, with the authority and knowledge that indispen-

sably prelude decision, questions of common interest to the whole. A glance at the agenda of the Conference of 1911 shows the wide range of its activities. Commercial relations and British shipping; navigation law; uniformity in copyright; patents, trade marks, companies, weights and measures; an imperial court of appeal; naturalization; cable rates; wireless telegraphy; universal penny postage; imperial postal orders; decimal coinage; Suez Canal dues—these are all matters in which (not to exaggerate her claim) India is at least as vitally interested as New Zealand or Newfoundland. But (as India sees the case) two representatives of a million British citizens in one case and two representatives of a quarter of a million in the other have discussed these issues, while 315 million subjects of the Crown in India have looked on, and silently attended a verdict in which they had no voice. From a narrowly constitutional standpoint such a statement may require correction, but broadly speaking it is not inaccurate. No wonder that India chafes at her exclusion and resents an arrangement by which matters of great concern to her as well as to the rest of the Empire are settled over her head.

At the same time it is abundantly clear that India's exclusion has hitherto been the inevitable consequence of the method of growth of the Imperial Conference, and

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