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LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 29.

LAURIER AND THE IMPERIAL
CONFERENCE.

The conclusions of the Imperial con-
ference bear the impress of Wilfrid
Laurier's prudent and sure-footed
counsel. The official reports of the
proceedings, although condensed and
incomplete, are sufficient to show that
his views are invariably shared by the
British Government, and that among
the representatives of Outer Britain
his voice is the most authoritative. The
rejection of the title "Imperial Coun-
ciller," the method by which the con-
ference shall be given a continuous life,
and the delimitation of its functions—
these have been settled in accordance
with the constitutional principles which
Sir Wilfrid has always enunciated. In
the matter of imperial defense, too, the
plan agreed upon is strictly in harmony
with his ideas of the organization of
the empire—a unity based upon the
fullest possible exercise of local
autonomy.

The Toronto World, a Conservative
newspaper not habitually friendly to
Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and not too scrup-
ulous in its opposition to the Federal
Government, can find only words of
praise for his work in the motherland.
The World's views on imperial prob-
lems, unlike some of its utterances on
domestic affairs, are so sound and sane
that its article is worthy of reproduc-
tion in full:

"Canada has reason to be satisfied
both with the reception accorded Sir
Wilfrid Laurier in the motherland
and the part he has taken in the
liberalization of the imperial conference.
The Prime Minister of the Dominion
is no stranger to the British people.
His reputation as the Chryseus of
political orators, the charm of his
personality and unflinching courtesy,
and the fact that he is at once the
representative of the greatest nation
of outer Britain and of the French
portion of its people, have all com-
bined to make him the most pictur-
esque figure at the Imperial confer-
ence. Nor has this special niche in
the affectionate regard of the public
of the United Kingdom been imperil-
ed by the advent upon the Imperial
stage of General Botha, the quondam
Boer leader and now the first premier
of the youngest of the British states.
They are comrades, not rivals, and
it is natural that despite their dif-
ferent records and experiences, the
parallelism in their political environ-
ment should act as a special bond of
attraction. It is permissible to be-
lieve that the counsel and influence
of Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be valu-
able and acceptable to the statesmen
who, in South Africa, are confronting
a cognate problem to that solved by
the makers of the Dominion of Can-
ada.

"A very gratifying feature of the
proceedings is the evident ardency
of the desire to devise effective
means of co-operation and mutual
support, to promote inter-communi-
cation, and to further the dissemina-
tion of knowledge and information
concerning the resources, conditions
and policies of the various states.
Equally commendable is the general
recognition that the ideal relation-
ship is that of equal partnership,
with complete reservation in each
case of all autonomous rights and
privileges. This is building on a sure
foundation, and one not only consis-
tant with British tradition, but capa-
ble of indefinite expansion. True
union is not a matter of paper con-
stitutions or agreements, but of
sympathy and sentiment, of common
interest, of realization that in it
there is strength and freedom to
play a leading part in the inaugura-
tion of a new era of peace and good-
will. A tendency is unfortunately
apparent in certain places to identify
British imperialism today with the
evil contents associated with the
word in earlier centuries. Imperial-
ism in the form of wanton and un-
justifiable aggression on the rights
of other nations and peoples is as
acceptable to the citizens of the
United Kingdom as it is to the
younger nations of British stock.

"Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the World be-
lieves, stands for a sane and sober
imperialism, founded on the con-
viction that a closer union of the British
states is possible on the basis of co-
operation and partnership, while pre-
serving to each complete self-govern-
ment and in dependence of action.
The line he appears to have taken
at the conference table is entirely
consonant with that view, and the
World is convinced his attitude will
be heartily approved by the great
majority of the Canadian people,
and rightly understood. It ought not
to evoke opposition even from those
of his own race who seem saturated
with the notion that imperial con-
ference conceal an attack upon Cana-
dian nationality. Sir Wilfrid Laurier
deserves high commendation for the
course he has pursued, and the
World is agreeably surprised at the
distance the Dominion Premier has
gone in furthering the objects of the
conference. Immense headway has
been made—how much time will make
clear. There can be no doubt that
never before have the vital elements
of the problem of the empire been
more squarely acknowledged, or has
there been more ready acceptance of
their necessary corollaries. Sir Wilfrid
Laurier is entitled to a full share of
credit for the initial success of the

conference. The increased prestige
accruing to him and to Canada can-
not fail to modify profoundly the
future course of international af-
fairs, so far as the Dominion is con-
cerned. The closer the British states
get in touch one with another, and
the more solid their front, the greater
their weight in preserving their just
rights throughout diplomatic negotia-
tions. By his presence at the im-
perial conference and by supporting
closer union he has placed Canada in
the best position for maintaining and
protecting her just claims."

WARD SYSTEM NOT WANTED.

The system of electing aldermen "at
large," or by the general vote, has
been in operation in Hamilton, as in
London, for a few years, and strange
as it may seem to us, there is now ag-
itation in that city in favor of a
return to the old ward system of
choosing municipal rulers. As a re-
sult of a recommendation of the fin-
ance committee the city council is ex-
pected to submit to the people a bylaw
providing for such a change in time
for the next January elections. The
Herald, in championing the proposition,
contents that the "at large" system
has failed to accomplish what was
claimed for it—that it has not done
away with sectional rivalries and jeal-
ousies, but on the contrary has been
made the instrument of a party ma-
chine, and used for party purposes.
Our contemporary admits that "a re-
turn to the ward system will not eli-
minate the element of political parti-
zanship as an influence in municipal
elections," but declares "it will at least
enable the electors to vote for men
whom they know, instead of voting
blindly for men they know nothing
about except that they are endorsed
by one or another of the party organi-
zations."

No one will pretend that the present
system is perfect, but that it is far
preferable to the old ward plan few
Londoners will be prepared to dispute.
In this city sectional rivalries and
jealousies have been deadened to a
considerable extent since the change
was made. All will remember
how, under the old system,
the average alderman worked
with an eye solely in the interest of
his ward; the invariable scramble, in
the constitution of standing commit-
tees, for a seat at the board of works,
and the ward-grabbing that had be-
come a scandal and a shame. When
the annual appropriation for public
works and improvements was being
divided, each member of the board felt
in duty bound to see to it that his
ward got a big share of what was go-
ing, without any regard whatever to
the actual needs of the ward. Not in-
frequently—this was in the days when
the wards numbered six, each sending
three representatives to the council—
a majority of the board would "put up
a job" on the other members, and grab
for their wards the lion's share of the
appropriation, leaving the minority,
whose wards were as likely as not to
be most in need, with the short end of
the cash. In such instances, the ma-
jority in the council could be relied on
to carry the scheme through. Alder-
men then recognized as their constitu-
ents only those residing in the ward
they represented.

Under the present system these
abuses have been remedied to a large
extent. Now, instead of a ward, each
alderman realizes that he represents
the citizens as a whole, and conse-
quently is much less a ward-server
than he used to be. Unlike Hamilton,
the change in the election system is
not responsible for the introduction of
party politics into municipal elections
in this city. As is well known, the
London Conservatives had their slates
long before the ward system was abol-
ished. It must be admitted the pres-
ent system has by no means lessened
that evil; neither has it tended to im-
prove to any appreciable extent the
personnel of councils. It is disappointing
that certain aldermen who were sup-
posed to be products of the ward sys-
tem can still be elected by a general
vote. There is still much room for im-
provement in the system of municipal
government, but it certainly is not to
be found in a return to the old ward
system.

In Fowler and Gamay the country
has a precious pair of political pole-
cats.

After all the talk of graft and ex-
posure, the session has ended without
fastening a single administrative scan-
dal on the Federal Government. Sev-
eral members of the Opposition have
been discredited by cold facts. Not a
shred of evidence which would damage
a Liberal member has been produced.

If Mr. Whitney should ever have
good reason to complain that the fed-
eral authorities were encroaching on
provincial rights he will find it hard to
convince the public of the fact, after
his false alarm over the Petawawa af-
fair.

In forbidding the enforcement of the
Lord's Day act, the Government of
British Columbia is prompted by a
small spite at the federal authorities,
because the province was not given
what it asked at the interprovincial
conference.

The judicial committee of the Privy
Council has given a decision which
practically deprives the city of Toronto

of any control over its street railway
service. The city framed the agree-
ment with its eyes open, but the case
is only another evidence that a private
corporation is more than a match for
a municipal corporation any day in the
week.

"The Conservative party at Ottawa,"
says the Toronto Saturday Night, "cuts
a poor figure. Under more favorable
circumstances R. L. Borden might do
well, but flanked as he is by lieuten-
ants who are either dullards in public
business or sharpers in private deals,
what chance has he?"

The governors of Toronto University,
after looking around for a year, have
picked a Nova Scotian for president.
They grow big men in the Maritime
Provinces. Is it the salt air or the
fish? Or have the unusual facilities
for higher education there something to
do with it? Nova Scotia and New
Brunswick have more colleges and uni-
versities than the other provinces com-
bined. These institutions are small,
compared with Toronto, McGill or
Queen's, but size is not everything. The
friends of the Western University
have a good case.

A CANDID FRIEND'S ADMONITION.

[Toronto News.]
In the last analysis it would have been
sound policy and good politics to have
frankly recognized that as an Opposition
leader Mr. Foster's usefulness was over.
It would ultimately have strengthened Mr.
Borden's hand, and made him free to deal
ruthlessly with Government wrongdoing.
As it is, the Opposition is weakened in the
country, and there are signs that his own
party in Mr. Foster's present constituency
will reverse the policy adopted by the Op-
position at Ottawa. As an instance of bad
politics and a fine opportunity lost through
mere perverseness and partisan blindness,
the Opposition course in this connection
has been unconvincing, inept and disap-
pointing.

KING AND KAISER.

[Washington Post.]
The German loves military glory and
takes great pride in the army, but there
is nobody to fight, unless it be England,
and Bismarck said that would be a fight
between a shark and a tiger; yet Germany
has a strong navy, and purposes being
something of a shark herself, but the
British shark is the bigger, and doubtless
to the square inch a better fighter in the
water.
It is apparent that King Edward is an
able statesman than Emperor William, as
statesmanship goes in European politics,
which is the making of allies. Neither the
King nor the Emperor has genius. Both
are men of talent, but Edward has tact,
plenty of it, and England is profiting im-
mensely from it.

DOES HE?

[Montreal Herald.]
Without knowing much about Dr. Fal-
coner, the new head of Toronto University,
it is safe to assume that Ontario makes
no mistake in giving to Nova Scotia for a
man to fill the position. When it comes
to cultivated brains, Nova Scotia holds
about the best all-round record of any of
the English-speaking provinces.

HOPELESS CASE.

[Chicago News.]
The Druggist—Old man Skeen seems to
be a chronic invalid.
The Doctor—Rather. Why, he has worn
out three wives taking care of him.

THE CLEVER BLUENOSES.

[Hamilton Times.]
Wonder if Rev. Mr. Hosack now really
thinks that in kicking Ross he forwarded
the temperance cause?

THE CHIEF END OF MAN.

[Carlyle.]
The older I grow, and now I stand on
the brink of eternity, the more comes back
to me the sentence in the catechism which
I learned when a child, and the fuller and
deeper its meaning becomes: "What is the
chief end of man?" To glorify God and
enjoy him forever. And surely this is the
beginning and end of the Alpha and Omega
of that strange, indefinable thing which
we call life.

ST. AGNES' EVE.

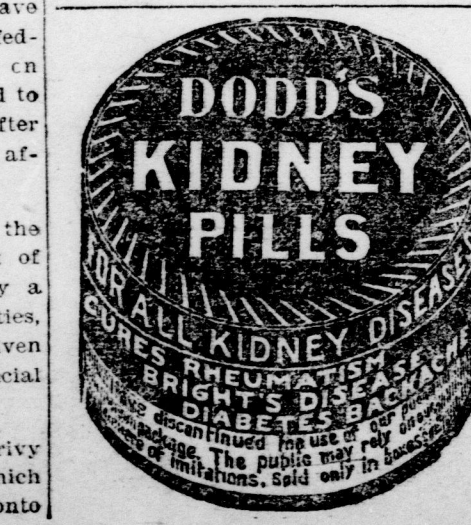
[Tennyson.]
Deep on the convent roof the snows
Are melting to the sun's warm glow;
My breath to heaven like vapor goes,
May my soul follow soon!
The shadows of the convent towers
Slant down the snowy ward,
Still creeping with the creeping hours
That lead me to my Lord;
Make thou my spirit pure and clear
As are the frosty skies,
Or this first snowdrop of the year
That in my bosom lies.

As these white robes are soiled and dark
To render shining good;
As this pale taper's earthly spark
To render argent good;
So shows my soul before the Lamb,
My spirit before thee;
So in my earthly house I am,
To that I hope to be.
Break up the heavens, O Lord! and far
Thro' all yon starry firmament
Draw me, thy bride, a glittering star,
In raiment white and clean.

He lifts me to the golden doors;
The flashes come and go;
All heaven burst her starry floors,
And strews her lights below,
And depends on and up; the gates
Roll back, and far within
For me the Heavenly Bridegroom waits,
To make me pure of sin.
The sabbaths of Eternity.
One sabbath deep and wide—
A light upon the shining sea—
The Bridegroom and his Bride.

TO GET AROUND IT.

[Chicago Tribune.]
Tufford Knutt (with his mouth full)—I'd
like t' ask ye a question, mum. Are they

Three Days' Sale
at Chapman's

You can buy the goods named below to-
morrow, Wednesday and Thursday at the
prices quoted==but on no other days.

Here's your privilege to save money. It's strictly a three-days' sale, and when
we say three days that is just what we mean. The prices quoted on these goods
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week are below what the goods have sold
for heretofore. Every price is a cut price. These days are to be, if prices mean any-
thing, the biggest bargain days of the season.

Big Days in Dress
Goods

Prices quoted are for tomorrow,
Wednesday and Thursday only.
Bargains that leave nothing to be
desired, both from price and qual-
ity standpoint.

SUITINGS—Serges, velvets and
worsted tweeds, very popular
fabrics and grades that always
sell for 50c and 75c. On sale
at 35c
PANAMA CLOTH—100 yards in
black and blue, 44 inches wide.
Worth 75c yard. For the
three days' sale 50c

Kid Gloves

53 pairs worth 60c pair
32 pairs Black Kid Gloves, in
sizes 5½ and 6; also 20 pairs in
colors, sizes in these are 5½, 6,
7¼, 7½ and 7¾. Choice to-
morrow 39c

Batiste Corsets

Summer Weight Batiste Corsets,
straight front with hose sup-
porters attached, all sizes; worth
a great deal more. Tomorrow,
Wednesday and Thursday 47c

Hose, 3 pairs \$1

Just to see the effect of this ad-
vertisement we offer three pairs of
just as good Cashmere Hose as
can be bought in Canada at 40c a
pair, for \$1.00 for the three pairs.

Imported Cork Linoleum

240 yards of Imported Cork Linoleum, worth 45c and 50c
square yard, on sale three days at, square yard

Block and Tile
Floral Designs
Wood Effects

32½c

Bargains from Linen Counter

Thirty only Bleached Linen Table Cloths, the finest snow-
white damask, size 2x2½; there's a very slight imperfection in each
cloth. Worth \$3.50 and \$4.00, on sale for three days, choice

..... 2.50

50 dozen Pure Linen Hemstitched
Towels, "old bleach" linen, size
20x40, worth 35c each, on sale
tomorrow, Wednesday and
Thursday, \$3.00 per dozen, or
each 25c

100 yards Twilled English Pillow
Cotton, 40 inches wide, worth
16c yard, sale price 12½c

10 pieces Unbleached Diaper Tow-
eling, 17-inch, at, a yard 7½c

Other Extraordinary Specials

White and Black Silk Braid Col-
lars, with pleats, in three dif-
ferent styles, were 75c and 85c,
for 39c
Collar and Cuff Sets, white Ger-
man embroidery, deep cuff, nine
sets, in two patterns, were \$1.00
a set, for 49c
11 pieces American Blue Hild, In-
digo blue, washing goods, worth
20c yard, at 15c

Full Front Lace Trimmed Corset
Covers, worth 25c, at 19c

Silk Ties, in pink, mauve, sky,
yellow, navy, red, white, and
black, regular 25c, at 5c

Children's Embroidered Collars,
only a few, were 25c, at 15c

350 yards Striped English Shirt-
ing, worth 12½c yard, on sale
at 9c

layin' any stone pavements in that next
town?

Farmer's Wife—I don't know. Are you
trying to get work?
Tufford Knutt—No, mum. I'm not tryin'
to get it. I'm on'y tryin' to locate it.

COMPENSATION.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"I see that an armless man married an
armless woman, somewhere down east re-
cently."
"He's a lucky man."
"Lucky?"
"Yes. His wife will never insist on hav-
ing him button her waist down the back."

The British Medical Journal wishes
to know why people can sit out a play
in a theater without coughing and
cannot do the same in the case of a
sermon in church.

Special for Three Days Only
Frilled Muslin Curtains

200 pairs Frilled White Muslin Curtains, stripes and
open work, artistic bedroom curtains. For these three
days, tomorrow, Wednesday and Thursday the prices are
just half what they were before

\$1.50 Curtains 75c
\$2 Curtains \$1.00
\$2.50 Curtains \$1.25

Ladies' Skirts

A Wonder Sale for Three Days

We offer just 38 of these skirts; they are all brand new, up-to-
date models in nine gore and pleated effects. Some are embellished
with straps and buttons. Made of all wool gray cheviot tweeds in
light and medium plain grays, and hidden checks and fancies. Full
assortment of all sizes. We offer these skirts for tomorrow, Wed-
nesday and Thursday only, at \$3.85

35c Wash Goods, 26c Yard

One of the daintiest and most desirable fabrics for summer
wash frocks and "jumper" suits.

It is a Swiss applique muslin in spots, also in checks. We can
give it to you in pink, blue and natural. Regular price 35c yard,
for 26c yard. The price is for three days only.

Carpet Remnants

28 ends of Brussels, Velvet and
Axminster Carpet, in conven-
tional, oriental and floral de-
signs, all colors. Regular prices
\$1.25 and \$1.40 yard, lengths
from 7½ to 39½ yards. Your
choice 98c

Important Wrapper Item

10 dozen Percale Wrappers in medium and dark colors, with
founce, waist lined. For three days only, at 59c

Black Skirts

Ladies' Black Velveteen Walking
Skirts, tailor stitched at the
foot, raised seams, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday, only
..... \$1.00

Long Muslin

Kimonos \$1.15

Just right for wear now. Full
length, nicely made, deep col-
lars, dainty effects. Special.
for the sale, only \$1.15

MORE ITEMS IN TOMORROW'S PAPERS
FOR THIS THREE DAYS' SALE.

SILK WAISTS

If you've a silk waist to buy, see
these black and white, three-
quarter sleeves, buttoned in
the back, lace insertion and
tucks in front, special \$2.75

Tan Coats

Ladies' Tight-Fitting Tan Coats,
collarless, with revers, a very
nobby coat, perfect fitting, spe-
cial for the sale \$4.95

CHAPMAN'S

You cannot possibly have
a better Cocoa than

EPPS'S

A delicious drink and a sustaining
food. Fragrant, nutritious and
economical. This excellent Cocoa
maintains the system in robust
health, and enables it to resist
winter's extreme cold.

COCOA

Sold by Grocers and Storekeepers
in ½-lb. and 1-lb. Tins.

It is beyond all question, that

COWAN'S
PERFECTION COCOA

(MAPLE LEAF LABEL)

is now being used by most people throughout the Dominion
because of its purity and fine flavor.

THE COWAN CO., LTD., TORONTO

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