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NOTICE TO READERS.

THE ANGLO-SAXON goes regularly to Sons of England lodges and branches of the St. George's Society in all parts of Manitoba, the British Northwest Territories of Canada, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; to branch societies of the Sons of St. George in all parts of the United States, to Clubs, Reading Rooms, Emigration Societies and similar institutions in Great Britain and Ireland, and to British citizens generally throughout Canada, the States, Great Britain and the Empire.

THE POLICY OF THE ORDER.

The Order of the Sons of England has for its object, among other things, the drawing together of Englishmen and the cultivation of an Imperial spirit. There is not a man in the Order who could not, if he tried, bring at least one other Englishman into the fold in any one year. There are nearly half-a-million Englishmen in Canada at the present time, and of these how small a percentage constitute the Sons of England Society! We are accustomed to think and speak of the Order as growing by leaps and bounds, and so it is. But compared to the vast field before us, how much there is to do. We can, however, take comfort from this fact. A few years ago, the Order was practically confined to Toronto. It now has lodges in every Province of the Dominion, in almost every county, and most of the cities and larger towns possess lodges, not unfrequently three or four.

To bring many men together a common object is required. What is that object which all Englishmen in Canada have in common? It is the maintenance of the liberties we have inherited. These liberties are manifold: the right of free speech, a free public press, a fair trial and decent government. To Englishmen these things are necessary as the air they breathe. But in order that they may be preserved to us in this country it is incumbent upon us to unite, so as to be able to take simultaneous action to defend and preserve our rights should they at any time be endangered. The fable of the old man, his sons and the bundle of sticks is well known to everybody, as is the moral. Its application to citizens of the British Empire has the utmost force, seeing how scattered we are and how loose are our bonds. In Canada especially ought we to be united, we who love liberty and fresh air. It will never do for us to forget that there are other races in Canada, races to whom liberty is an unknown quantity and for whom freedom is only another word for license. Was there freedom of speech, for instance, in the Province of Quebec, when Miss Wright and her friends were stoned by a mob in a hall which they had rented in Main street, Hull, for devotional purposes? Is there freedom of the press when the *Canada Review* is cursed from every altar in the Province of Quebec for advocating social purity and religious freedom? Was there a fair trial when LeSieur, a clerk in the Montreal Post-office, who was apprehended with the stolen money on his person, was released because it was found impossible to get a French-Canadian jury to convict him:

or when Paquin, a clerk in the Hull Post Office, whose confession of guilt was actually before the Judge, after two trials was acquitted? Was there decent government in the Province of Quebec when Mercier and his gang ruled the roost and brought Quebec very nigh to bankruptcy? And how might it be with us, Englishmen and freemen that we are, if men such as Mercier and of like principles (or utter lack of any) should get the government of this fair Dominion into their hands? Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and combination is as necessary for good as for bad objects.

In view of all these facts, and we have only referred to a few of the most flagrant, what is the policy of the Order of the Sons of England? It is to bring together all the English in Canada and the descendants of Englishmen, for purposes of mutual benefit and for united action in certain political matters. What these political matters are we can state freely, so that there may be no room for misunderstanding. For one thing, we stand for British connection. Now, that is a doctrine which will not be reprobated by the Liberals (if we have not misread Sir Oliver Mowat's speech at the recent convention) or by the Conservatives. It is therefore non-partizan. We go farther and strongly advocate the principle of Imperial Federation, and we shall be rejoiced when the Sons of England are numerous enough to make it worth the while of one of the two great parties to adopt it. When that time arrives, the ANGLO-SAXON will support that party, no matter whether such conduct is termed partizan or not. In the meantime it is useful to remember that no less than sixteen Members of Parliament are members of the Order, and that the number will probably be doubled in the next Parliament. There is no reason for uncheerfulness, therefore, but lots of room for work.

Out of the 135 prizes given at Chicago for excellence in the production of cheese Canada carried off 126, and yet some people claim that the Canadians do not want the whole earth. This is a remarkable and gratifying result. But the case becomes all the more significant when it is pointed out that Canada made only 162 exhibits, while the total number of exhibits was 667. The 162 Canadian cheeses took 126 prizes; the 505 other cheeses received just nine prizes. In a review of the commercial situation Mr. B. E. Walker, of the Bank of Commerce, pointed out that in 1890 we exported \$13,675 worth of cheese; in 1870 we sold \$674,486 worth; in 1880, ten years later, the value of the export was \$3,893,366; in 1890 the figure was \$9,372,212; and that in 1892—the cheese year ending on March 31, 1893—we exported \$13,687,551 worth.

A GOOD OPENING.

Canada ought to make money out of her hay this season. That of good quality is worth from \$13 to \$15 per ton on the barge at the vessel side in Montreal for export to Europe. Fodder is so dear in Europe, and especially in England, owing to the unprecedented drought last spring, that the price of hay now ranges from 90 to 150 shillings, or \$22 to \$38 per load. Just how much a load is we do not know, but suppose it to be in the neighborhood of a ton. The demand is far brisker than the supply, though the export trade is not yet fairly established. All articles are sold according to their reputation in English markets, and it takes a good while to have any new articles tried and tested, and accepted as things that can be safely ordered. Consequently the market for Canadian hay has still to be worked up. There is, however, a fair export demand that is likely to be developed very quickly, and a large trade is likely to be done this fall. Canada will have a very large hay crop.

Out of nearly 90,000 farms in the U.S. State of Michigan, from which returns have been obtained it appears that about 39 per cent. are mortgaged, and that the mortgages represent about 46 per cent. of the value of property. An important fact brought out by the investigation is that the estimated value of all the farms in the State in 1893 is \$15,000,000 less than the estimated value of the same property in 1888.

Lucas A Non Lucendo.

At a meeting of the Old Students' Club connected with the Working Men's College in Great Ormond Street, Mr. C. P. Lucas of the Colonial Office, editor of the recent edition of Sir G. C. Lewis's "Government of Dependencies," opened a discussion on the subject of Imperial Federation. The report of Mr Lucas's argument, as printed by the *Magazine* published at the College, gives such an excellently arranged and reasoned summary of the case for and against Imperial Federation that we reproduce it here for the benefit of our readers. We do not enter into any criticism of Mr. Lucas's points—with some of which, of course, we cannot agree, notably those relating to the commercial consideration of the question.

Mr. Lucas said he was afraid he did not believe very much in Imperial Federation. It was one of the great many things he would like to see; but felt that he was sitting on the fence only, although he would be very glad to be pushed over. The Greek philosopher Aristotle discussed in his treatise on "Politics" of what is the best form of state ideally, and what is best, given certain conditions. Now, he did not think the federal state was the ideal state, though it might be best under certain conditions; but when adopted, it was adopted as a choice of evils, being a complex form of government instead of a simple. In forming the constitution of the United States the longest heads strengthened the central authority and tried to reduce the federal element as much as possible. In the British Empire you must have more than one government owing to geographical considerations, and you have the alternative, in the present or future, of federalism or independence. From his point of view federation—federalism—was a choice of evils. Federation implies some kind of equality. There may exist between governments, as between those of Great Britain and India, a relationship of absolute superiority and inferiority, but as between us and the self-governing Colonies, they are not as a matter of fact subject to, but are on an equality with, Great Britain. They are nominally subject, but really independent. Here, then, is a proper sphere for federalism, and we owe something to the Imperial Federation League for emphasizing the fact of this equality. The British Government has helped them with this idea by giving them self-governing institutions and by encouraging Colonial Federation, or the grouping of Colonies together. This is recognised to be a necessary preliminary to Imperial Federation.

He proposed to discuss: Is Imperial Federation desirable?—Is it practicable? There is no great demand for it at present—only an uneasy feeling for the future. There are two counter-tendencies. There is the tendency for the Colonists to become more Colonial and to care less for the Mother Country. Why should children born in the Colony, and growing up there, be particularly fond of England? Their country is more of a home for them, and England less of a home. On the other hand, there is the perpetual-quickening steam and telegraph communication bringing them closer to us: people passing more and more to and fro; and you have to settle which tendency will prevail in the future.

First—Is it desirable for the Mother Country? It is desirable in this sense: (1) The Colonies would pay more for their defence. At present he did not think they realised sufficiently that we defend the British world. There has been no instance in the past of a country having been so liberal on that score as England. (2) We should or ought to be stronger as a fighting power, having their assistance; and (3) they would not perhaps levy customs duties on our goods as is now the case. Against these advantages to us it is said (1) that we might have a new and disturbing element in our legislature. This would depend on the form of government. It is a serious thing to cut about your legislature. You have this difficulty now arising as to what are Imperial interests etc. (2) That we should not have so much control over our foreign policy as now, and being linked to younger people, much more jingoes than we are, would be more likely to be involved in war; and (3) we should probably have to give up our free trade. He could not bring his mind to believe that we should do this. Personally he would not do it.

He then dealt with the advantages and disadvantages which it would bring to the Colonies. The advantages were:

1. They would have a direct voice in our foreign policy—this might mean

also a voice in the management of the Crown Colonies and India.

2. They might gain in defence—though a Canadian might say, "I get my defence free now, and am not going risk having to pay, on the chance of getting more!"

3. They would probably get a preference in our markets commercially.

4. A larger share of Imperial prizes or patronage.

On the other hand, they would

1. Have to pay more for defence.

2. Would lose some of their independence, being perhaps taxed, and certainly to some extent controlled by the Imperial body—they might even be overridden by the votes of other Colonies.

3. Would become more directly involved in European politics—another very important disadvantage.

Over and above these considerations there are two strong points in its favour:—

Sentiment, which we ought not to ignore, but ought to foster; and

Appearances; for so long as we hold together, and the other nations see how great is the British Empire, we shall be less open to attack and better able to prevent war.

As to its desirability, his opinion was that on the whole it was in itself desirable, but these objections were always in his mind: that it might develop into a great fighting machine, or build up a great commercial barrier—and he would not give up free trade; also he would not agree to any Anglo-Saxon Federation which left out the United States.

Is it practicable? Not at present. Popular feeling is not exactly ripe. You must have Federation in the Colonies first. Is it in the future? He could not think so. The geographical and commercial difficulties are too great.

What is practicable, however, is tentative measures, such as constant conferences say every three years; uniformity in such matters as postage, law, especially merchant shipping and commercial law; and making colonial government securities available as investments for trust funds.

Mr. Lucas brought his address to a close by giving details of the scheme of the Imperial Federation League comprised in the Report of the Special Committee.

Historical and Political.

Bank failures by the score, a few lynchings and numerous gigantic frauds have been the object lessons given during the past month by uncle Sam to Canadians. At the present moment every commercial concern in the States is in jeopardy of bursting. The McKinley Bill which was to make every Yankee rich has bankrupted its author and the cabinet minister who helped to get it passed. In short the fraud has been exposed and when that is the case there is some small chance of honest men getting a show.

How much the United States depend on Britain has been marvellously illustrated during the past few days. An order issued from a small office away up in the hills at Simla, India, simply announcing that gold would be the money standard in India and in less than two hours a commercial panic ensued in every city in the States. The silver dollar was not worth more than 55 to 60 cents, and is now even less than that. Silver mines are closed and the President has called a special meeting of Congress to consider the crash.

Within another quarter of century there will be 100,000,000 people in the United States and 25,000,000 in the maritime provinces, Ontario, and the Canadian North-West. If all this vast number speak English, and if the principle of national system of education is recognized by them, Quebec with its 2,000,000 will be unable to withstand the pressure from without. The necessities of business, and the vastly greater opportunities enjoyed by those familiar with the tongue of the majority, will assuredly force the minority into line.

If the Behring Sea tribunal of arbitration were seized with a fit of insatiable and granted all the United States claim and demand through their counsel no one but the American Government would have more than the right to lock at a seal whether in the water or on dry land. Some of British papers anticipate a verdict against England owing to the feeling of European nations in general, that England is altogether too prosperous and wealthy and a little bleeding does her good at times. The United States is quite so prosperous, but we suppose the European nations do not envy her as they do England.—Witness.

Canada Past and Present.

In looking back over the history of Canada since Confederation much is seen to create a feeling of pride in the past and to justify unbounded hope in the future.

A mere paper union has been changed into one founded on community of feeling and common interests have been developed by the creation of a system of intercommunication which brings Halifax as close to Vancouver as Toronto was to Goderich half a century ago.

Since Dominion Day was first celebrated the population of the Province of Ontario has increased from one and a half to nearly two and a quarter millions, while that of the Dominion has gone up from three and a half to five millions.

In 1867 all the real estate in Ontario was valued at \$238,000,000; to-day farm lands and buildings alone are worth \$810,000,000 while stock and implements add another \$170,000,000 to wealth possessed by the agriculturists of the Province. Twenty-three years ago the number of horses in Ontario was only 377,000 and of cattle 1,014,000; now the figures are 688,000 and 2,029,000 respectively.

Turning to the Dominion at large there is a showing that is also cause for gratification. The foreign trade of the country has increased from \$130,000,000 in '67 to nearly \$250,000,000 in '93. The assets of chartered banks in Canada have increased in the same time from \$78,000,000 to \$303,000,000, and the deposits from \$32,000,000 to \$169,000,000. The amount of life insurance in force in 1890 was only \$35,600,000, while now it is \$279,000,000. In the same period the sum received in fire insurance premiums has jumped from \$1,785,000 a year to \$6,715,000.

Our railway interests in 1867 were insignificant, whereas now we have 15,000 miles in operation carrying over thirteen and a half million people every year, with annual earnings approaching \$52,000,000.

In '74 we only shipped 68 head of cattle to England; last year we sent over 100,000, and in the same period our cheese exports have increased upwards of 300 per cent. All these figures show a growth that is really phenomenal.

And our people have improved morally even more rapidly than the country has developed materially. In this Province the number of places in which liquor is sold has been reduced in 21 years from 5,450 to 3,347, and the committals for drunkenness have been lowered from 3,888 in '76 to 2,736 in '92. Nor is this improvement confined to one province, as is shown by the fact that the number of offences against the person in all Canada was only 725 in '92 as against 920 in 1882, and by the further fact that murders in the same period have fallen from 27 to 18 per annum.

There is no country in the world where there is less of the evils resulting from extreme riches on the one hand and extreme poverty on the other; there is none where there is less suffering, in proportion to population from actual want, and there is none where the people are so law-abiding, sober and industrious. Faith in ourselves, vigor in the development of our boundless resources, will cause the next quarter of a century to give the fulfilment of which the progress of the past is but the promise.

INDEPENDENCE.

Advocates of Independence will do well to note Honore Mercier's words (*N. Y. World*, April 9th): "You see, to-day, annexation commissioners would have no standing at Washington, and the President would be perfectly right in refusing to treat with them. But let the Canadian people declare their independence. Let the United States and other nations of the earth recognise Canada as a nation. Then would it be possible for us to say to your Government, 'Come and take us. We are yours. We desire to enjoy the privileges of the free institutions which have been the secret of your unparalleled prosperity. We renounce all allegiance to a monarchy, to a dynasty which has trod us under foot. We want to become an integral part of your magnificent Government. We want the Stars and Stripes to wave over us as they ought to wave over every foot of the western hemisphere.'"

The area of the British States in India is 965,000, and of feudatory States 535,000 square miles, making a total of 1,500,000 square miles. The population of the British States is 221,173,000, and of the native States 63,050,000, or a total of 287,223,000, or about eight times that of the United States. India is where Britain has a market of immense value and entirely controlled from London.

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