

Empire League in Canada." Sir Charles indulged in a brief retrospect regarding the formation of the Imperial Federation League in London in 1884. It was inaugurated by the late lamented the Rt. Hon. W. E. Foster, and brought in such men as Lord Rosebery and the late W. H. Smith, then leader of the House of Commons. Great attention was drawn towards the question of consolidating the Empire, and among the influences which helped to attract notice to the vital importance to the Empire of maintaining the connection between the Mother Country and her Colonies, no man's advocacy was more eloquent or more widely exerted than that of Mr. G. R. Parkin. But the more the question was discussed the greater the feeling grew that a mistake had been made in calling the movement the Imperial Federation League, and after a complete examination of the subject in all its bearings, there was a consensus of opinion, with but one exception, that the proposals for giving the Colonies representation in the Imperial Parliament were impracticable, and Lord Roseberry, who was chairman of the League, publicly expressed his regret upon more than one occasion that a term had been used which was misleading. The difficulty was overcome by the elimination of the word Federation and changing the name to British Empire League, not pointing out by what means the unity of the Empire was to be promoted in the designation. Sir Charles went on to point out how a small section of active gentlemen, seemingly losing sight of the object of securing the unity of the Empire excepting the one question of defence, turned their attention to using the Imperial Federation League mainly as a means of obtaining contributions from the various Colonies for the support of the Empire. He took exception to such views, and the difference of opinion finally culminated in the formation of a few gentlemen into what was called the Imperial Defence League. That organization was still in existence. Sir Charles said that his views in regard to the important question of naval defence would be found set forth in a recent issue of the Canadian Magazine. He thought all the subjects contained in the constitution of the