

Canadian authorities, they would limit to small figures the granting of passports to Japanese going to Canada, and they have kept their word.

The treaty between the British Empire and Japan is expiring. In view of her services in the great war Japan will naturally feel that she is entitled to much consideration in the making of a new treaty. On the other hand Canada will desire to guard against limitation of her right to control immigration on the Pacific as well as on the Atlantic. Australia has, perhaps in more acute form, the same question concerning the menace of Oriental immigration, and will desire more definite protection against it than in the past. The Australian Parliament has passed an Act imposing a heavy tax on Japanese immigrants, which Act the Governor-General has reserved for consideration by the Home Government. The thing to be desired is a new treaty with Japan that will be in harmony with the pride and ambition of the Japanese people, that will be satisfactory to the statesmen of the United Kingdom from their own viewpoint, and that will be acceptable to Canada, Australia and the other overseas Dominions. To bring about such a desirable settlement will be no easy task. There are too many big questions engaging the attention of the public men of the Empire at present to permit this Japanese question to be settled quickly. It is therefore satisfactory to learn that the British and Japanese authorities have agreed to continue the present treaty for another year, in order that there may be ample time for consideration as to the terms of a new treaty.

Australian Governors

There are several points in which the constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia and that of the Dominion of Canada differ materially. In Australia, the doctrine of State rights—in Canada we would call it Provincial rights—is pressed much further than here. In the distribution of legislative powers the unspecified things—the residue they may be called—are by the Australian constitution given to the States, while in Canada they are given to the central government. But perhaps the most striking point of difference is in relation to the appointment of the Governors of the States of Australia and the Provinces of Canada. In this Dominion the appointment of the Lieutenant Governors is in the hands of the Ottawa Government, and local men are usually chosen. In Australia the Government of the Commonwealth has no such power. The Governors of the States of Australia, like the Governor General of the Commonwealth, are appointed by the Imperial Government. Up to this time the Governors chosen have been men from the public life of the mother country, in some instances from the Imperial civil service and in others from the

House of Lords or the House of Commons.

Some people in the Australian States, in which there is more or less radical opinion, chafe under this system and have been seeking a change. It does not appear that they have desired the Canadian system which, if adopted, would give them Australian Governors appointed by the Commonwealth Government. It would appear that those who oppose the present system are content to have the appointments made in London, but they demand that one of their own citizens be chosen.

Mr. Theodore, the Premier of the Queensland Government—a Labor Government—who is now in England, has taken exception to the proposal of the Imperial Government to appoint Sir Matthew Nathan, an old civil service man, to be Governor of that State. It is not surprising that the British Government are unwilling to meet the Queensland request. They will reasonably feel that if they are to have the responsibility of making the appointment they should have a free hand in making the selection. Probably a proposal to adopt the Canadian system would have a better chance of obtaining favor at the Colonial Office, through that branch of the Imperial authority may find it quite agreeable to be able to honor or reward a friend by giving him a comfortable colonial governorship, and for that reason the present system may be preferred by that Office. To give up the right of free choice, to be obliged to make a selection from local men of whom they know nothing, and yet to be held responsible for the conduct of the official, will certainly not be agreeable to Colonial Office authorities.

Lord Milner, the present Colonial Secretary, seems to have side-stepped the question by telling Mr. Theodore that such an important change of Colonial Office practice should not be made at the instance of one of the Australian States, but that the voice of all should be heard. Mr. Theodore, admitting the force of this argument, proposes to win the authorities of all the other States to the Queensland view. In the meantime, Sir Matthew Nathan goes out to fill the Queensland Governorship. His relations with his Cabinet under these circumstances may not be of the most pleasant character.

Perhaps the other Australian States may not be as anxious as Queensland to have local men in their Government Houses.

A Third Party

The Republicans and the Democrats having nominated their Presidential candidates, a question now attracting much attention among the American politicians is, will there be a third party candidate? Of course, there are always candidates nominated to represent some special interest, but these are not taken seriously. Eugene Debs, for instance, though still in the penitentiary, is nominated as a Socialist candidate and doubtless many votes will be cast for him.

Nobody supposes, however, that he is a serious competitor of the Republican or Democratic nominee. But if any prominent man in either of the old parties breaks away from the regular organization and takes the field as an Independent candidate, he may seriously disarrange the plans matured at Chicago and San Francisco. It was so in 1912, when Theodore Roosevelt, refusing to be bound by the re-nomination of President Taft, caused such a division in the Republican ranks as gave the Democrats under Woodrow Wilson an easy victory. There are rumblings of discontent with the Republican and Democratic nominations, and a meeting of the dissenters has been held at Chicago to consider the situation.

It was a queer gathering. Promoted by a group known as the Committee of Forty-Eight—the number corresponding with the number of States in the Union—it attracted all sorts and conditions of disgruntled people. To expect any coherent policy from such an assemblage would be folly. The various elements quarrelled, and there was hardly a semblance of orderly proceedings. One section had come resolved to nominate, for President, Senator R. M. LaFollette, a radical who won notoriety by his opposition to the war policy of the United States, but the character of the meeting was such that LaFollette's friends refused to allow his name to be used for the purpose. After the withdrawal of some factions and protests from others, the meeting nominated Parley P. Christensen, of Salt Lake City, as the Presidential candidate of the "Farmer-Labor party." Mr. Christensen sent a telegram characterizing the proceedings of the meeting as "foolish," but nevertheless accepting the nomination. Although the name "Farmer-Labor party" is used, there is not much of the farmer element in the movement. The Labor element seems to have dominated the situation.

Mr. Christensen is not likely to be taken up seriously by the Labor voters of the country. Mr. Gompers, it is to be noted, while adhering to his view that there should be no distinct Labor party in politics, but each workman should remain free to support the candidate of his choice, has issued a comment on the situation which may have considerable influence upon the voting in November. He weighs the platforms of the Republicans and the Democrats and, while finding neither of them fully satisfactory, comes to the conclusion that the working classes have more to expect from Mr. Cox than from Mr. Harding. If the Labor elements generally take this hint from the veteran leader and give their support to the Democrats, Governor Cox's chances of election as President will be much improved. At all events, it seems clear that the fight will be a straight one between the Republican and Democratic candidates, and that the several minor parties which may put candidates in the field are not of sufficient importance to seriously affect the situation.