

# The Semi-Weekly Colonist

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FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

## TRADE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURE

### Lord Desborough Wants Canada Well Represented on Conference of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire

## SPEAKS ON NEEDS OF VICTORIA HARBOR

### Coming Congress in London Will Discuss Measures to Facilitate Scheme for Imperial Preference

The Right Honourable William Henry Grenfell, first Baron Desborough, is esteemed the world over as the Palatine of British sport. But Lord Desborough is no less distinguished as an authority on shipping and commerce than of all-round athletics, as may be at once recognized from the important positions he holds as president of the London Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Thames Conservancy Board, which controls all shipping on 138 miles of the Thames' 47 locks, and 5,000 square miles of land under its River Purification Committee. In a long chat with the Colonist representative yesterday, Lord Desborough expressed his gratification of the opportunity thus afforded to address himself particularly to the Victoria board of trade and kindred bodies throughout the Province.



LORD DESBOROUGH

"I am particularly anxious that the Dominion should be well represented at the conference of the boards of trade and chambers of commerce of the empire, that is to be held in London next June," said Lord Desborough, who will preside over the Imperial conference. "There are five hundred chambers of commerce in the Empire, and it is proposed that a permanent Imperial Council of these commercial authorities should be formed that they might become a permanent link between all the Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade throughout the Empire. They will thus be enabled to formulate some definite policy of representative business men on the important matters affecting the trade and commerce of the Empire. It is most important, therefore, that this first meeting should be representative of all these business bodies, because rules and regulations governing the new Imperial Council will have to be drawn up and agreed upon. A programme has already been drawn up, which will be submitted for discussion at this conference in June, 1912. Various matters will then be discussed affecting the trade and commerce of the Empire.

### Pressing Commercial Problems

These will include (1) cheaper postal rates; (2) development of telegraphic communication within the Empire; (3) uniformity of commercial and shipping laws; (4) emigration; (5) establishment of an Imperial appeal court; (6) labor exchanges in regard to the

Dominions; (7) navigation laws; (8) Imperial wireless telegraphy; (9) an all-empire mail route; (10) stamp duties on Colonial bonds, and (11) coinage and measures. Government, particularly that at home, are becoming more and more inclined to consult business men on business matters. It is therefore obvious that the newly inaugurated movement must have a great influence on the popular development of Imperial trade and commerce. Hitherto, these bodies have only met at triennial intervals. The last time was at Sydney, New South Wales, when Canada was well represented. But it is felt that the establishment of a permanent Council with a secretariat will be a great improvement on the old spasmodic efforts hitherto made.

"There is no doubt," continued Lord Desborough, "that this meeting of commercial representatives from all parts of the Empire will greatly facilitate the formation of some scheme of Imperial Preference, to which the late election in this great Dominion has given such impetus and encouragement. As a member of Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff commission, I need hardly say how gratified I am that Canada should have shown in so unmistakable a manner her determination to keep her hands free for agreements which would have made the consummation of this Imperial policy almost impossible.

### Dock Development

"As chairman of the Thames Conservancy Board, I am naturally extremely interested in the dock contemplated in Victoria. From my own experience in shipping administration I am profoundly impressed with the necessity of devoting a sufficient depth of water at low tide to provide for the ever increasing bulk of ships.

"What recommendations could you make in the case of the projected harbor development of Victoria?" Lord Desborough was asked.

"I do not feel competent with the inadequate knowledge I possess to advise. I might, however, venture to suggest

## ITALIAN SHIPS OFF TRIPOLI

### Squadron Consisting of Four Dreadnoughts, Three Cruisers and Minor Vessels on Guard at African Port

## BUSINESS IN CITY COMES TO STOP

### Britain May Be Embarrassed by Turkey Claiming Right to Send Convoys to Tripoli Through Egypt

TRIPOLI, Sept. 27.—The first Italian squadron, commanded by Rear Admiral Auburny, composed of four Dreadnoughts, three cruisers and several torpedo boats, is now anchored in line off Tripoli. The second Italian squadron is at Taranto awaiting orders to convey the transports. Up to the present no Italian force has been landed in Tripoli.

### Excitement in Tripoli

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The correspondent of the Chronicle, in a late dispatch from Tripoli, says: "All business has stopped, and great excitement prevails. The Turkish steamer Derna, entered the harbor within view of the whole fleet, which apparently had been watching for many miles. She landed 100 soldiers, several boxes of ammunition and rifles. It is expected that the fleet will now take steps to occupy the place. At any moment the fleet could have stopped the Derna, but refrained, it is understood." (Continued on Page 2.)

## MR. ROOSEVELT NOT ATTENDING

### Sends Letter Explaining His Absence from U.S. Conservation Congress, to be Made Public Today

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 28.—Delegates to the third annual conservation congress tomorrow will hear just why former President Theodore Roosevelt did not attend the convention, which was quickly filled with smoke, which blinded the struggling and frantic occupants, who fought one another in their efforts to reach the exits. When the smoke cleared, one man was found dead, and three boys, one eight and two ten years of age, were so frightfully burned and mangled that they died soon after being carried from the building.

### Successor to Mr. J. Thomson

Mr. Archibald Bassett has been appointed general manager of the fur trade district and steamship service of the Hudson's Bay company in succession to Mr. James Thomson, who formerly held this position and who was recently appointed land commissioner of the company with headquarters at Winnipeg. Mr. Bassett will in addition have the supervision of the company's land interests in the province of British Columbia.

### Harrington Will Answer

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 28.—Attorney John R. Harrington, of Chicago, facing the alternatives of answering questions before a grand jury or of going to jail, today decided to answer. "I will answer all the questions the grand jury asks me," said Harrington late today, after consultation with counsel for the defense. "and I will answer any other proper ones they may put to me." The referee held a conference today to determine whether or not a change of venue should be asked because of the ruling in the Harrington incident, made by Judge Walter Bordwall. "Nothing final was decided."

### Shot Into Dynamite

COBALT, Ont., Sept. 28.—Hildreth Kilowan, 13 years old, son of Ben Kilowan, of Halleybury, shot at a chipmunk on Sunday. The shot struck some stored dynamite, which exploded, blowing three fingers and a thumb off the boy's left hand and otherwise injuring him.

### Five Killed in Fight

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 28.—Five persons are dead as the result of a pitched battle between officers and several negroes near Dumas, Ark., this afternoon. The officers were trying to arrest several negroes when the latter opened fire. Sheriff W. Preston, of Dumas county, and Deputy Sheriff Barney Stell, of Little Rock, are the dead whites.

## RESPONSIBILITY OF CANADIANS

### Earl Grey in Speech at Farewell Banquet Refers to Full Participation in Affairs of Empire

## POLITICAL LEADERS PAY HIM TRIBUTE

### Imperialistic Tone of Mr. Borden's Remarks—Sir Wilfrid Suggests His Presence at Railway Opening

OTTAWA, Sept. 27.—The announcement that Earl Grey has postponed the date of departure from October 8 to October 12, in view of the political situation now existing at Ottawa, was made by the governor general himself, tonight, at a farewell banquet tendered him by the Canadian club of Ottawa. The banquet was held in the restaurant of the House of Commons, and was presided over by Judge McTavish, president of the club. It was attended by 300 club members and guests general of various countries represented at Ottawa.

### Fireworks in Church

Four Persons Killed and Many Badly Injured at Guadalajara Through Premature Explosion.

## MINISTERS ASK FURTHER TIME

### Earl Grey is Requested by Premier to Delay His Departure for Week—Not Ready on October 6th

OTTAWA, Sept. 27.—The political situation cleared slightly today when Sir Wilfrid Laurier in a personal conference with Earl Grey at Rideau Hall explained the inability of the old cabinet to resign in time for the governor-general's departure on schedule.

### Burglars at Lytton

Blow Up Safe of Storekeeper and Banker and Secure \$2,000 in Cash Besides Jewelry.

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VANCOUVER, Sept. 28.—Thieves blew up the safe in the store of Mr. Bahagiatli, a pioneer shopkeeper of Lytton, B.C., who has acted as a banker for many friends and acquaintances. The robbers escaped with \$2,000 besides some jewelry. They had timed the explosion of the powder so that those who heard it took it to be the explosion of a warning torpedo for the incoming C. P. R. train.

### New Brunswick Pulp Tree

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Practically all the wood pulp and print paper produced in New Brunswick until Aug. 1, 1912, will enter the United States free of duty. This is made possible by a revised ruling made today by Acting Secretary of the Treasury Curtis, under the only operative clause of the Canadian reciprocity agreement.

### Another Majority of Two

QUEBEC, Sept. 27.—Hon. Jacques Bureau, solicitor general, was elected in Three Rivers by a majority of two.

## HER BIRTHDAY AS A NATION

### Lord Charles Beresford Before Canadian Club, Speaks of Results of Election and Effect on Empire

## CANADA AND HER RESPONSIBILITIES

### Noted British Admiral Suggests Harbor Improvements to Prepare for Opening of Panama Canal

"Well done, Comdore!" That was the sentiment of every one who had listened, thrilled by the characteristically stirring speech of Britain's greatest naval hero since Drake and Nelson, the Right Hon. Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, K. C. B., M. P., at the Canadian club luncheon yesterday. It was a great occasion for the loyal city of Victoria, and the speech was worthy the man as the man was worthy the occasion. Throughout his tour of the Dominion "Bulldog" Beresford kept himself muscled, knowing his bite to be more deadly than the whole government's "bark." It was, therefore, a signal honor to Victoria that



LORD CHARLES BERESFORD

Distinguished British Admiral Who Was Yesterday a Guest of the Canadian Club.

the Empire's sailor should consent to address the Canadian club in Victoria, where finger happy memories of his days at a midshipman on the old Pacific squadron.

Having allowed himself to be drawn into a public pronouncement on the Imperial problems that confront Canada today, Lord Charles, having cleared the decks (or dinner table) for action, poured broadside after broadside of breezy humor and of slashing sarcasm at the British government that had abandoned Esquimaux dockyard, done away with the Pacific fleet, were going to sell H. M. S. Egeria by auction for the price of scrap iron instead of handing her over to be used as a training ship for Canada's navy. As he sent shell after shell of satire smashing on the target, each "hit" was cheered to the echo. In ringing tones of invincible ardour for the Empire's supremacy of the seas, the gallant old hero pulverised the administration for leaving Canada defenceless, and thus jeopardising both the commercial and strategical development of "Britain's brightest jewel."

But Lord Charles' speech was not merely a destructive indictment of government short-sightedness and "imperial nigardliness." It was a masterpiece of constructive advice and sound, sober statesmanship. With characteristic modesty and earnestness he impressed his hearers with the strategic significance as well as the commercial revolution of the forthcoming opening of the Panama canal, and his timely appeal to take time by the forelock, and "do it first," remembering that the first place to have a port ready for ships would be the one that would command the trade.

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