

realised. Under present conditions, such a provision seems utterly impossible, though the future may bring some such development.



**T**HE wise Canadian is he who refuses to be stampeded by extreme views expressed either at home or in England. It is as unsafe to follow the lead of men who claim that armies and navies are a menace to the peace of the world, as to follow those who desire us to contribute freely towards the expense of an extravagant naval programme. The man who declares that Canada should have neither a soldier nor a cruiser is only a little more foolish than the man who would have this country tie itself up indefinitely and unreservedly with the foolish naval expenditure of European powers.

There is no benefit in crying "Peace, Peace!" when there is no peace, but we are wise when we exert our influence in favour of disarmament and against militarism. By keeping our army that is and our navy that is to be under our own control, we may exercise some influence upon British foreign policy. So long as these martial forces are to be sent to the aid of the Empire, only when that Empire is in danger from unjust aggression, we can be sure that our military and naval strength will not be used in unwarranted aggression. Local control of colonial auxiliary forces may at first blush seem to show a lack of confidence in British statesmanship and British foreign policy, but nevertheless it may be the means some day of preventing a conflict which would be inimical to the world's best interests.



#### CANADA AND THE B. W. I.

**T**HE recent appointment of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Hon. William Paterson, Sir Dickson Poynter and Sir Daniel Morris as commissioners to investigate and report upon measures to promote closer trade between Canada and the British West Indies is an outcome of years of discussion and suggestion. Perhaps the disastrous earthquake which turned Kingston, Jamaica, topsy-turvy in the winter of 1907 has hastened the forming of this commission and has increased the desire for closer trade relations between the British West Indies and the rest of British North America. These islands are regarded by most Canadians as a pleasant resort in the winter months, for those of us who have weak lungs and leisure to devote to the contemplation of Bermuda lilies and coffee-plantations, not to mention the bubbling charms of Trinidad's lake of pitch. However, there is a more practical interest for the Canadian merchant or manufacturer in these British possessions of sub-tropical products, and it will be to mutual advantage to study the climatic and industrial characteristics of these islands, in contrast to those of the Dominion.

The Anglo-Saxons living on the British West India Islands are more "English" than we, and are, perhaps, more akin to the Southerners of the United States in temperament and breeding. Increased facilities for travel are making us better acquainted with our cousins in these picturesque islands and the more we know of them in social

and business life, the keener becomes our desire for increased trade and closer political fellowship.

The choice of Hon. W. S. Fielding and Hon. William Paterson as Canadian commissioners will be acceptable in Canada, Great Britain and in the West Indies. There are no Canadians in public life better qualified by experience, knowledge and statesmen-like tact and integrity to bring about closer trade relationships between this country and any other British possessions than the Wizard of the Tariff and "Honest William," who knows Canadian manufacturing life in its connection with the Customs from biscuits to automobiles.

#### FANCY FLIGHTS AT RHEIMS

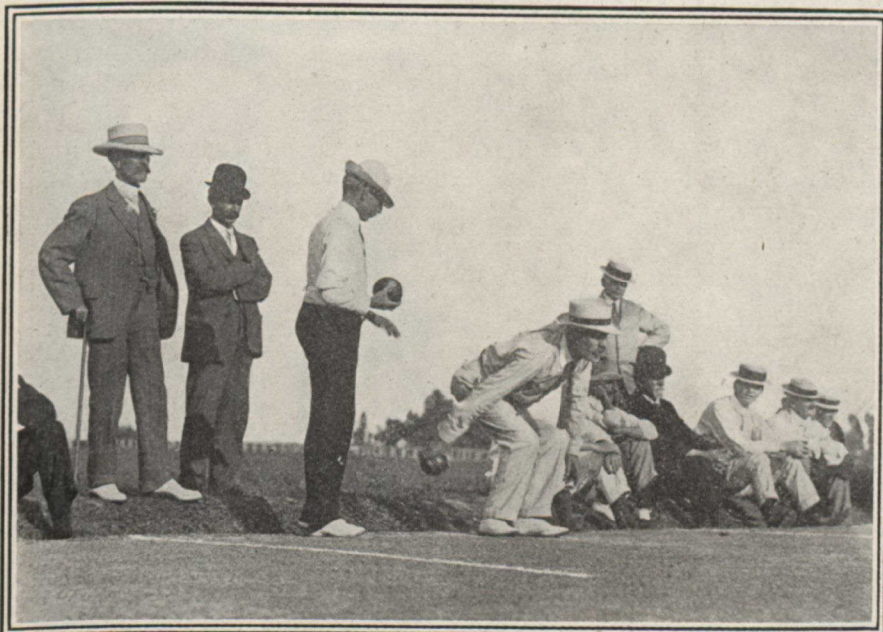
**L**ONG ago, in the green-backed history, we learned that Rheims was the ancient coronation city of France. Thither went the conqueror of the early centuries, to be succeeded by the weaklings who found Edward III. and Henry V. of England too many for them. Then came the inspired peasant girl, who had heard wonderful voices in the forest of her childhood and who was possessed of the desire to lead discrowned Charles to Rheims. The centuries have changed all that and it is many a year since France had a salutation for either king or emperor. Now it is science that is being crowned at Rheims and no one knows whether Bleriot, Tissandier or Lefebvre will emerge as monarch of the air. The latter's "fancy flying" in front of the grand stand aroused great enthusiasm as he showed his temporary mastery of the gentle zephyrs. Last Sunday's performances at Rheims, however, appear to confirm the impression that flying is, as yet, nothing but a fair weather performance, and is by no means an advisable undertaking when there is a "north-easter" or a cyclone to be taken into aerial consideration. *Terra firma* is yet the desirable resting-place for the citizen with an eye to security, when the autumn breeze is murmuring in the pines.

Yet the experiments at Rheims mark, in unmistakable records, the flight of time as well as aeroplanes, and one might well imagine the ghosts of discomfited royalties hovering near the scene of former coronation pageants as the new aristocracy of invention and daring makes a dash into the empyrean. We may, however, be doing the dead an injustice and it may be that the spirit of Philip Augustus has taken delight in the bold "figure eights" of Lefebvre. The modern adventurous young man should turn his fancies skyward and make an ethereal record. If Alexander the Great were in Macedonia to-day he would not need to weep for new worlds to conquer, but would merely send an order to Baddeck, Cape Breton, for one aeroplane "warranted not to flop."

#### A POINTER FOR MR. FIELDING

**A** RESIDENT of Sulphur, Yukon Territory, writes the Dawson *News* that the salaries of the officials there are too numerous and too generous. He thinks \$300,000 too large a salary account for the governing of 5,000 people. "It is the most expensive government in the world," says he, and Mr. Fielding should make a note of the remark.

#### WINNERS AT THE DOMINION BOWLING TOURNAMENT



These two pictures give a slight idea of the picturesque scenes on the Woodbine Lawn, Toronto, last week. The chief Trophy was won by Mr. J. S. Willison of the Canadas, with Mr. Thomas Rennie's Granites as runners-up. In the first picture Mr. Rennie stands with the bowl in his hand, while Mr. Willison is about to deliver his ball.