

DR. MONTAGUE'S GREAT SPEECH

At the Canada Club in
England.

THE ADVANTAGES OF CANADA ADVOCATED.

Our readers will appreciate the publishing in full the speech of the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture, which was delivered at the annual dinner of the Canada Club, London, England. Such efforts as the following does more good for Canada than any other means that could be adopted:

Dr. Montague said: Mr. President of the Canadian Club, Mr. Chamberlain and Gentlemen.—Under any circumstances you can easily understand that I should be delighted to be here to-night; but my pleasure is immeasurably increased by the presence of the Right Honorable the Colonial Secretary. In Canada we have learned to look upon Mr. Chamberlain as a British statesman who has grasped with vigor and comprehensiveness the true idea of Greater Britain, and the tenor of his address to which we have just listened is of itself an evidence that we are not wide of the mark in our judgment. (Cheers.) Sir, because of that judgment, because of the fact that your guests of this evening appreciate the importance of the influence which your great colonial possessions must exercise upon the future of the Empire, we appreciate Mr. Chamberlain in Canada as perhaps no Colonial Secretary was ever appreciated before. (Cheers.) And I am gratified that I am here to-night to bid him, in the name of our people, a hearty "God speed" in that work which he has evidently marked out for himself—the work of adding to the already existing ties of kinship and friendship between the

MOTHERLAND AND HER COLONIES the still stronger, the still more enduring ties of mutual interest and interdependence. (Cheers.) Sir, in the minds of our people—I hope I shall not be thought ungenerous when I say it—there are recollections of those days when, in pursuit of what we thought to be wise foreign policy, weak colonial policy prevailed, and in consequence we were the losers—we primarily, but you in the end, for what is our loss is your weakness, and what adds to our strength is your strength as well. (Applause.) Well, Sir, we hope that these days shall not come again, and with such stout hearts, such clear heads as that of Mr. Chamberlain at the Nation's Council we are confident that they cannot come again. (Cheers.) It is true, Sir, that naturally we may be somewhat inclined to view matters from a local standpoint. It is equally true that with great geographical extent, commercially, industrially, politically, we are smaller than the Motherland, and consequently the circle of our vision somewhat narrowed; but, Sir, it is equally true that our experience of

COLONIAL UNION AND CONSOLIDATION—a work in which Canadian genius and patriotism forges with success the first links of what we fondly hope may yet be the perfect chain—(loud cheers)—partly to some extent justifies us in thinking that we are not without some ability at least to read the signs of the times as they refer to the wider field of the Empire. And besides, Sir, while I am glad to respond for Canada I do not wish to speak as a Canadian only. The right hon. gentleman who has just addressed you has not spoken as an Englishman. He has stood, as indeed, he has also stood in the discharge of his official duties—upon the wider ground of British citizenship and British statesmanship in all that those proud terms imply. (Cheers.) As Canadians we are not narrow. We are colonialists but not colonial. (Cheers.) Our sympathies are as wide as the bounds of the Empire, and our hearts are as true to the interests of the Empire in the widest sense as are your hearts here in the shadow of the historic pile at Westminster. (Cheers.) The Colonial Secretary has referred in terms, the kindly spirit of which I shall never forget, to the actions of the Canadian Parliament only a short time ago, when the horizon of the Motherland could not be said to be entirely free from clouds. (Cheers.) Sir, the Canadian Parliament in that action spoke correctly the sentiments of our people, who, living in whatever province, speaking

whatever language, worshipping at whatever shrine, have determined to labour together for the

PERPETUATION OF BRITISH INSTITUTIONS upon the Continent of America. (Cheers.) Your president, and the gentlemen who have responded to the toast of the Army and Navy, have referred to the fact that Britain is at peace with the world. Long may it continue, sir, is our prayer as well as yours. (Cheers.) But, sir, I could not help thinking, as they were speaking, that the peace which we enjoy is an armed peace. (Hear, hear.) Not a trace of its origin is to be found in gratitude for England's friendship to liberty and Christianity in the past. Only slightly, at best, is it due to the better sense of modern times to try friendly negotiation before resorting to the dread arbitrament of the sword. It finds its chief source, sir, without a doubt, in the knowledge which is abroad of British valour—(cheers)—of the strength of British arms—(cheers)—and the multiplication of such ironclads as I saw the other day upon the stocks on the Clyde. (Cheers.) And your people recognize that fact, as evidence the response of Parliament when more treasure is asked for for the strengthening of either branch of your defence. And just here will you permit me to say that the response of our Parliament and our people was not less decided when, only a short time ago, we decided to

ARM OUR BRAVE CITIZEN SOLDIERS with the best implements of warfare. (Loud cheers.) But, sir, in the midst of this armed peace, so far as actual war is concerned, you are in every other sense in the midst of rivalry and hostility—rivalry and hostility that the years as they pass can only intensify and make more bitter. The secrets of manufacture are no longer yours; the skilled artisan and the labour-saving machine are no longer your monopoly; your merchant marine are no longer alone upon the sea. You are still the centre of the world's commerce, much of which directly or indirectly pays a tribute to your great commercial and financial institutions in this metropolis and at other centres; but, sir, not one inch of ground is being left to you uncontested in the war of commerce and of trade. At your doors France, Belgium, Germany, are becoming formidable rivals. Across the Atlantic the great American Republic is reaching out its arms for Australian and African trade, and even pushing its prodigious in the ports of Europe as well; while, to the East, Japan is awakening from her sleep to a vigorous commercial and industrial life. An am I not right, sir, when I say that not a month passes by which does not see one or other of these rivals—or some other one—taking part possession of markets in which hitherto only the product of British labour have been found? (Cheers.) I am not here to-night to predict British ruin. I have not been upon London Bridge looking for the coming of Macaulay's New Zealanders—(laughter)—but I am here to say to you that the man who looks upon the facts to which I have just alluded with indifference is an unwise counsellor. (Cheers.) But, sir, there is a brighter side to the picture. To that side the Right Honourable the Colonial Secretary has in his great speech of this evening indicated his desire to turn. (Cheers.) While all around you hostilities have been increasing, rivalry in trade growing stronger, and competition growing keener, your sons in other lands have been laying the foundations of young nations whose prayers for your continued prosperity and greatness are yours. They are sons of the household gone out to new homes, to new fields of labour, to new hopes, to new aspirants, and, thank God! to new successes. (Cheers.) But their hearts are still warm to the fireside of their youth. (Cheers.) They have no jealousies of you; they need no watching; and your peace with them is not an armed peace. They are spots—and I do not hesitate to say here, in the hearing of a member of the British Government, they are the only spots to which Britain can to-day turn and be greeted by a hearty, disinterested and sympathetic response to her efforts. (Loud cheers.)

THE COLONIES AND ENGLAND.

I ask you, sir, am I not right when I say that the time has come when for our own sake, and the common good, the Motherland must turn to these young nations—to these sympathetic allies—with deeper and more practical interest than she has ever turned before? (Loud Cheers.) Am I not right, too, when I add that only in the grasping of the opportunities they present is the way open through which she may continue her work of nation-building in a manner in keeping with her achievements in the past? (Cheers.) Sir, I want before I say a word as to the manner in which interest may be displayed toward your Colonies, to express the hope that I may not be thought therein to be presenting Canada at least in the position of a supplicant at your gates. (Cheers.) You will admit that, except in the matter of defence—where we have done more than we get credit for, I am afraid, but where we gratefully acknowledge our debt to the Motherland—except in that regard we have been self-reliant. (Cheers.)

WE HAVE UNITED OUR OWN PROVINCES, we have settled our own difficulties, we have at the credit of our own treasury constructed a system of public works which you only need to see to be proud of. (Cheers.) We have indeed, sir, fully appreciated the importance of the part we should yet be called upon to play, and have not forgotten to make ourselves ready for our task. (Cheers.) In passing, and just here, I would like to refer for a moment to a word that dropped from the chair when this toast was being proposed. You, sir, were good enough to express the hope that the depression was lifting from Canadian shores. Sir, I am able to assure you that your hope is not badly founded. (Cheers.) More, sir, I am glad to be able to tell you—I am sure you already are aware of it—that in the great depression of the past two years Canada has not suffered a tenth of the loss and hardship that has come to other peoples, and notably to our great neighbors—the United States of America. (Loud cheers.) Just one fact in testimony. In the United States over six hundred monetary institutions in one year went to the wall. In Canada, during the same time—indeed, during many years past—only one bank, and that from circumstances largely peculiar to itself, met misfortune. (Cheers.) We have had our depression, of course; we could not escape it. But prosperity is only a relative term, and relatively we have been prosperous indeed. Sir, how shall the people of the Motherland turn to Canada with more practical interest?

HOW TO HELP CANADA.

In two ways at once; in a third way; we fondly hope, a little later on, when discussion has taken place and the difficulties at present apparent have been cleared away; at once by endeavoring to turn the tide of emigrants leaving your shores to ours. (Cheers.) Up to the present, partly from a misunderstanding of our climate—than which there is none better—partly on account of absolute indifference, I am afraid, I shall have to say, as to where those leaving you went, we have not been getting as great a share as we should have got. And with what result? We were losers; they were losers, in going where the opportunities of advancement were not so great; and you were losers most of all, because they have gone to join those whose hands in all things are against you, instead of joining us, to whom, as I have said, you must eventually turn. (Cheers.) Our great fields are awaiting industrious settlers; we offer them of the asking—and, along with them, good educational facilities, an abundance of opportunities for religious worship, and the advantage of living under the British flag. (Cheers.) It is your duty, viewed from whatever point, to send them to us. The guest of this evening is a friend of the Colonies because he is a friend of the Empire. I hope that he may yet evolve a practical plan in connection with the immigration question. It is a question worthy of even his great powers. It is a question fraught with no little importance to the future, and I have no hesitation in saying that, with his great ability, influence, and enthusiasm to help us, we should be able to reap an abundant harvest from the efforts we have made—thus far only partially successful—but of the efforts we shall make in the same direction. Another means of very present encouragement; capital here is awaiting investment, our resources are awaiting development. Why not come to us? (Cheers.) We don't offer you quite so gilded promises; but our schemes are safer, and, in the end, will give you better returns than many a gilded scheme into which you remember with regret you have gone under foreign flags. (Hear, hear.) Sir, your toast is to the Governor-General and the Dominion. Will you permit me here to say that Lord Aberdeen, whose name I am glad to see you greet so kindly, has in addition to an able discharge of his duties, shown his faith in Canada and her resources by investing largely of his means in the Great Province of British Columbia. (Cheers.) Go, then, and do likewise. (Laughter.)

CLOSER UNION WITH ENGLAND.

And now, sir, a third means is in adopting some plan in the direction of the speech of the Colonial Secretary to-night. (Cheers.) Your cheers—the cheers with which you greeted his words as they fell upon your ears—tell me that the thought of closer practical union between the different parts of the Empire has your warmest sympathy. (Cheers.) Sir, in four or five weeks in the Motherland, I have found that feeling on every hand. I must confess I was not prepared for so outspoken a friendship to it, a desire for it as I have found, and when I leave your shores, as I must in a few days, I shall go back to Canada able to tell my fellow Canadian citizens that here in the Motherland the hopes of a solidified Empire are no less fondly cherished than in Canada. (Cheers.) You look upon the realization of those hopes as the dawn of a better day for us all—as the beginning of a new epoch of British progress and prosperity—and so do we! Mr. Chamberlain has mentioned difficulties. He is the wisest friend to any great movement who faces the difficulties at once and tries to surmount them. We have difficulties, too; but—and I do so, of course, without committing myself to any special plan or scheme—I do not hesitate to say that, while there are

difficulties here and elsewhere, the advantage to be derived from the adoption of some practical plan of increasing trade within the Empire are so great, and far-reaching that mutual sacrifices should be cheerfully and willingly made at home and abroad. (Cheers.) The Colonial Secretary has said, and very properly said, that theories are well enough in their way, but they should not be worshipped. Sir, in Canada we have had to legislate to meet conditions, and it is conditions that the Motherland must face now. (Cheers.) Canada is favourable to some plan of

IMPERIAL AND COLONIAL TRADE, some plan of mutual, commercial and industrial defence. That much is certain. More, sir, we are free at any time to discuss proposals. We have no entangling trade alliances. Indeed, I am glad to be able to say to you that we have always refused to consider any commercial proposals, however alluring, in the adoption of which we should have to discriminate against Great Britain. (Cheers.) Two years ago, our present Premier, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, with the concurrence of his colleagues, called together and organized the Intercolonial Conference to which the Secretary of State has alluded to-night, and the object of which was to find a plan, if possible, upon which mutual agreements could be come to. And I am sure I need not remind you that Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., who has so ably represented us here for many years, and who is now a leading member of the Canadian Government, has both here and in Canada, battled for the same, with his great ability and determination. And, sir, I do not hesitate to say that when we come to be consulted, you will find Canada ready to adopt any plan, the adoption of which her circumstances and the conditions surrounding her will permit, which of-

fers mutual commercial advantage and a strengthening of the ties that bind us to the Old Land. (Loud cheers.) I have only now to offer my thanks for your invitation to enjoy this evening at your board, for the opportunity of hearing the charming address of one of Britain's most gifted sons, for the enthusiasm with which you have drunk the toast of Canada and its Governor. And, as a last word, I should like to say to you that at our festive boards we receive with equal enthusiasm the toast of the Old Land and its beloved and gracious sovereign. (Loud cheers.)

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HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

All even-numbered sections of Dominion Lands in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories, except 8 and 23, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or for other purposes may be homesteaded by any person who is sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years of age to the extent of one quarter-section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local office for the District in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one to make the entry for him. A fee of \$10 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry; but for lands which have been occupied an additional fee of \$10 is chargeable to meet inspection and cancellation charges.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

Under the present law homestead duties must be performed in the following way, namely, by three years' cultivation and residence, during which the settler may not be absent more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

May be made at the end of three years, before the local agent, or the homestead inspector. Before making application for patent the settler must give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his intention to do so. When, for convenience of the settler, application for patent is made before a homestead inspector, a fee of \$5 is chargeable.

INFORMATION.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at any Dominion Lands Office in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them; and full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of these Regulations, as well as those respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior (Immigration Branch) Ottawa; the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories.

N.B.—In addition to Free Grant Lands, to which the Regulations above stated refer, thousands of acres of most desirable lands are available for lease or purchase, on easy terms, from railroad and other corporations and private firms.