

## AN ANGLO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE

An Interesting Article Written by  
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of Bridgetown

[From the St. John's Nfld. Herald]

Now that the British Government has declared in favor of a policy for a commercial preference between Great Britain and her Dominions beyond the seas; and a movement has been made for the confederation of all the British possessions in North America into a larger Dominion and a greater Canada—the British Empire will soon have that complete consolidation for which our greatest Imperial statesman have so long desired.

This important departure from the old traditions is taking place at a psychological moment. Germany, too, is now making her plans, which are as ruthless as her submarine warfare, for exploiting the economic situation after the war. These designs of her commercial strategists and political economists are doomed to failure because they are based upon German victory, and without regard to the force of the Anglo-Saxon spirit, when once fully awakened.

When the economic and political unity of the British Empire, to which I have referred, is thoroughly established, our next step should be to strengthen our relations with the United States, which under the menace of German Militarism has made them our ally. Will they remain united when the danger which brought us together has disappeared? About the remoter political and economic consequences of the entry of the United States into the war, our statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic probably have no leisure at the present time to speculate; but no one can doubt that the ultimate results of the union in war of the two great branches of the English speaking race, will be the discovery that they have a common interest in each other's welfare, and they cannot, henceforth, move along separate paths to an altogether different destiny.

Nature and history made them friends. They have more in common than any other nations. The largest interchange of commerce, same language, and the same aspirations before welfare of mankind. The logic of events has made them Allies; it is impossible to believe that after the war their alliance will be dissolved. On the contrary, every fresh development of the present intimate relations between them will lead eventually, to a closer union involving political, as well as commercial, correspondences from which the great Anglo-Saxon federation of which Chatham dreamed, may at last emerge.

It will be the supreme irony of history if the madness of the German war-mongers should result, not in the realization of the Pan-German dream, but in the creation of a union of the English-speaking nations, pledged by the very conditions of their alliance to maintain the peace of the world, and to foster the growth of free institutions. Three years ago, such a consummation, however ardent, it might have been desired seemed very remote and to many impossible. We now frequently hear from the statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic, the phrase: "The union of English-speaking nations." It is now practical politics to discuss the measures that can be taken to attain it, and upon what foundations it can be built up in our own time.

Public opinion is prepared for great and far-reaching changes in the governance of the world, and certainly no development would be more popular—in the full meaning of that phrase—than the welding together of the English-speaking peoples who already have a community of traditions, ideals and institutions.

## UNIVERSAL PEACE

The diminution of the ruinous competitive expenditure upon armaments would be among the first fruits of a union of the English-speaking nations. It would obviously have no aggressive purpose and no ruler or Government would be able to justify expenditure upon armaments to attack so formidable a combination, which would have the support and sympathy of the highest and best in other foreign nations. They would rather cultivate friendly relations with these nations to expand their commerce in their enormous markets, upon which they must largely rely for their exports. The English-speaking nations, with their almost inexhaustible natural resources, and holding the gateways of the world, would not only be safe themselves from any possibility of attack from hostile powers, but would be the strongest influence in the world to prevent other nations going to war among themselves, thus the most potent force for preserving the peace of the world.

Strong as are the ties of sentiment and kinship that unite the British and American peoples, these are not in themselves sufficient to guarantee the permanence of a union necessary to stand the ravages of time, and enable them to fulfil their destiny in

promoting civilization and universal peace. Our friendly relations have been strong enough to keep the two peoples at peace with each other for more than a hundred years, and they would suffice for the same end in the future. But larger issues are now in question than the maintenance of peace between kinsmen.

Great Britain and the United States with the other nations forming the Grand Alliance that have made themselves guarantors of the freedom of the world, are jointly accepting obligations and responsibilities that neither can carry separately.

Allow us now to suggest that a measure of economic union would tend to keep the interests of these two great peace-loving states in harmony. I would therefore, touch upon the practical side of this question by proposing a commercial tie, rather than one of sentiment only, for in a material age where a man's dollar is, usually, his heart will also be. It would be impossible to enter into details at this time on such an intricate subject as a commercial union between these countries. It would require experts to investigate and learn just what tariff changes would be necessary to bring about a Reciprocity Pact advantageous to all the nations of the English-speaking race. I will, therefore, venture only to present general principles, which I believe may be developed into a sound working agreement.

## PREFERENCE FOR PREFERENCE

Having regard to the interests of our other Allies, I believe a binding union with the United States must be brought about by a commercial preference.

Since Great Britain has now practically decided to adopt Protection after the war, granting the Colonies a preference, the United States will at once realize the conomical loss she will suffer if she is not included in that preference. The free entry into the largest consuming market of the world which she has enjoyed for such a long period will cease, and her trade will then not continue to increase as at present with the Dominions now her largest customers.

I therefore suggest that the United States be permitted to enter the market of Great Britain upon an equal footing with the Dominions, providing Great Britain is granted a preference in the United States, say, largely on articles imported by the latter from foreign countries, so as to make the minimum interference with her own industries. The Dominions to cave the exclusive free entry into the United States of their natural products without being called upon to lower their tariff to the U. S., which would compensate them for waiving their rights to a larger preference in the Mother Country, than the United States. There would thus be no discrimination against the Mother Country by the Dominions as they would confine their preference within the Empire.

It is obvious a preference between the English-speaking nations would result in greatly enlarging and making more profitable the commerce within their borders. It would also place these nations in a position to secure concessions in highly protected foreign countries by offering a uniform reduction from their general tariffs to those countries which could grant similar concessions, thus giving them the power of lowering the tariff and enlarging their trade with foreign countries, and approaching the dream of Cobden for universal free trade, or, more properly speaking, tariff, for revenue only.

If the nations now flying the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack were thus united, they would have under their control thirteen million square miles of the richest territory in the world with vast resources and every variety of climate; they would have a population of over five hundred millions of producers and consumers to trade with each other on a basis of actual advantage. They would be independent of and protected from the competition of other nations where labor conditions and the general standard of life would undermine the position of the working classes in these English-speaking nations.

France, Italy, Russia and other congenial allies, would suffer little, if any, by the United States having the same preference as the Dominions in the markets of Great Britain, because of their principal exports differing from those of the United States. They should welcome such an alliance as it would strengthen their natural ally, Great Britain.

The English-speaking nations in this proposed Reciprocity Pact would each have their own individual general tariff. They could have a three column tariff, namely, first, for English-speaking nations; second, intermediate for their allies; third, general for neutrals. The Central Powers would be on the outside and against a tariff wall, over which they could not climb until they had made reparation for the past, and were converted to the ideals of civilization.

## INDIA

The great English Empire of India should enter into this large commercial union with its three hundred million consumers, and vast resources of raw material. India should be in the same position as Great Britain with respect to preferential trade, granting and receiving the same preference that Great Britain enjoys with these other English-speaking nations.

The development and prosperity of India, resulting from these preferences would be in the interest of the English-speaking nations. The purchasing power and demands for the products of Great Britain, United States, and the Dominions, would greatly increase in India where they would have a preference over foreign rivals, and the development of India's resources stimulated by these closer commercial relations would largely increase employment for their own people at home, thus overcoming, in a measure, the vexed question of emigration. The class of goods India is likely to manufacture with heavy transportation costs, should not cause the other English countries to fear her competition, having regard to the advantages of her trade and raw material. India, who is in the same Imperial Family, has proved her worth, and loyalty in this great struggle for liberty, and henceforth should have greater freedom and encouragement in working out her future destiny.

Referring again to the political importance of a union of the English-speaking nations, as a dominating factor in preserving the peace of the world, the United States could have the assistance of Great Britain and her Dominions in maintaining her "Munroe" Doctrine. In return the United States could offer her support to her kinsmen in maintaining the Munroe Doctrine on this side of the Atlantic, including also those countries whose shores are washed by the Pacific, where the United States has such large interests.

## FIVE YEAR PROGRAM COMMITTEE

What is Being Done at Lawrencetown  
In Connection With the Above

In response to a request of the Five Year Program Committee of the Maritime Baptist Convention, the Lawrencetown Baptist church early in October, appointed a committee on religious education. This committee, by the advice of the pastor, recommended the organization of a Reading Circle as the best means under the circumstances of meeting the demands of goal III, of the Five Year Program.

The recommendation has been adopted by the church and the organization of the circle completed. The object is to encourage and direct the reading of wholesome literature. Any one over ten years of age may become a member by agreeing to read one book a month. One meeting is to be held each month, the leading features of which shall be a synopsis of one of the books read and a social hour for the purpose of getting better acquainted.

It is proposed that one Friday evening each month be devoted to this work in order to prevent the multiplication of functions. The officers and committees are as follows:

President, the pastor, Rev. F. H. Beals.

Vice Pres. Mrs. John Stoddart.

Secretary, Gordon Bolan.

Treasurer, Pearl Bishop.

Membership Committee, T. G. Bishop, Donald Messenger, Frances Banks, Jean Palfrey, Mrs. Horace Reed.

Literature Committee: R. J. Messenger, Mrs. W. C. MacPherson, Mrs. F. H. Beals.

Social Committee: Mrs. E. H. Freeman, Mrs. Robert Blauvelt, Mrs. Ismael Brown, Mrs. W. S. Phinney.

Program Committee: Mrs. R. J. Shaffner, Miss Potter, Miss Peters, Jean Messenger, Freeman Hatt.

The first meeting which was held on the evening of Nov. 23rd, was a success in spite of the inclemency of the weather. About sixty were present.

Rev. L. A. Corbett, pastor of the Paradise Baptist church, gave an interesting address on the peace question. Musical numbers were supplied by local talent, and refreshments were served by the social committee. The next meeting will be held on Friday evening, Dec. 21st.

## A Highlander Frae Jerusalem

A gentleman of the Hebrew persuasion was recently gazetted to a crack Scottish regiment. The new acquisition was discussed by all members of the regiment with some warmth.

"Well, well," at length, said the Sergeant-Major, "I've seen many strange things in my time. We've had Highlanders frae England, and Highlanders frae Wales, and Highlanders frae Ireland, but in the whole course of my existence, boys, it's the first time we have had a Highlander frae Jerusalem!"

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