

by the exigencies of his position to decline it. King Edward is a hard-worked man. His days are occupied by public functions which, more or less, are wearisome to body and mind. No monarch was ever so closely in touch with such vast interests, domestic and imperial, nor was there ever any ruler so deeply interested in the affairs of allied nations, between whom and Great Britain an *entente cordiale* has been established by the statesmanlike diplomacy of King Edward.

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The delegates from the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire were entertained at a banquet at the Hotel Cecil, by Lord Elgin, secretary for the Colonies, who presided. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Strathcona, the Duke of Argyle, Ex-Governor General, and other distinguished public men were present.

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MR. CRATHERN RESIGNS FROM THE HARBOUR BOARD.—Mr. Jas. Crathern, who for six years has been the representative of the Board of Trade on the Harbour Board, has resigned. From present indications his successor will have a short term of office as the Harbour Board is likely ere long to be dissolved and remodelled.

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HON. W. C. EDWARDS ELECTED DIRECTOR CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.—At a meeting of the directors of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, held on 17th inst., the Hon. W. C. Edwards, of Rockland, Ont., was elected a director in place of the late Mr. W. B. Hamilton. He is the head of W. C. Edwards and Co., one of the largest lumber companies in Canada, with mills on the Ottawa River. His practical interest in stock-breeding is evinced by the herd of Shorthorns maintained on his well-known farm at Rockland. He was called to the Senate of Canada on March 17, 1902.

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A BRITISH GOVERNMENT TRADE AGENT IN CANADA.—Mr. Richard Grigg, representing the British Government, has arrived in Ottawa on a commercial mission. He explains his purpose in Canada as being to report on openings for British trade and arrange for regular supplies of information in future; find out the reason for successful foreign competition, and say what steps are necessary to meet it, and also to find out whether British trade suffered from fraudulent marking of goods. Mr. Grigg learnt something in Bradford about Anglo-Canadian trade. The President of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce (Mr. W. H. Mitchell, who is also a member of Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff Commission) told him that—

"So far as Bradford was concerned, the volume of business with Canada was so great that Bradford firms sent out their own representatives, and

twice a year Canadians came over here to buy goods. Dealing with the subject of preference, the President said that in one respect the Dominion might give a greater preference to this country without injury to her own woollen industry. The Canadians made woollen goods, but not worsteds, nor lustre goods, mohairs, and so forth. Still, all these goods were classed for tariff purposes as woollens, and thus Bradford goods which did not compete with Canadian woollens suffered a penalty for which there appeared to be no need."

Mr. Grigg told the Manchester Chamber that he expected to be in Canada seven months, and was instructed to ascertain and investigate those trade openings, if any, which had usually been filled to a large extent by foreign goods, with a view to seeing (a) the reasons for the success of the foreign competitors and (b) any steps which British traders might take in order eventually to meet such competition, and also to ascertain the effect of British trade on (1) shipping rings or conferences (preferential railway and shipping rates), (2) bounties, (3) systems of payment for goods on credit, (4) false marking of foreign goods, and (5) as to the system of consular reports and statistics. It would be part of his duty to select correspondents for the Board of Trade. He was instructed to exercise the greatest care in selecting these gentlemen, and he had to supply the reasons which had satisfied him as to their suitability.

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TEMISKAMING BONDS.—Over \$400,000 of the \$1,150,000 so far subscribed on the public loan for the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario bonds, was received in cash by the Provincial Treasury on 17th inst.

The subscribers for the whole million and more have intimated to Hon. Col. Matheson their desire to pay in the full amount of their subscriptions during the months of July and August, instead of taking advantage of the instalment system of payment provided in the applications.

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GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.—Already upwards of ten thousand men are at work on various sections of the road, under contract. It is said that fully twenty thousand men could be employed if they could be obtained, and it is hoped that the employment agencies will be able to send as many by early in September.

There is one link between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, a distance of 50 miles, which has not been put under contract. This is the one break in the new Transcontinental's operations from Port Arthur to Edmonton. Some believe, therefore, that this means that for that section an arrangement will be made with the Canadian Northern for running rights.