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JOHN CAMERON, President and

God's in His heaven.
All's right with the world.
—Browning.

Not for War, But for Honorable Peace.

The National Arbitration Committee of the United States, appointed at the great conference held in Washington last spring, in a statement sent to the Advertiser, makes an effective, though indirect, reply to the jingoism of the republic. The jingoes are a small but noisy body, but they seem determined, if possible, to prevent the ratification of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States. In the interest of world-wide humanity and of peaceful development of the two great branches of the English-speaking race, it is to be hoped that these mischief-makers will not succeed.

We are reminded by the National Arbitration Committee that from Washington's administration down to the present day, arbitration has uniformly been a prominent feature of the national policy of the republic. The pending treaty, it is pointed out, is really in a very definite sense the result of the initiative of the United States. In 1896 Congress unanimously adopted a concurrent resolution requesting the President "to invite from time to time, as fit occasions may arise, negotiations with any Government with which the United States has or may have diplomatic relations, to the end that any differences or disputes arising between the two Governments which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency, may be referred to arbitration, and be peaceably adjusted by such means." In 1893 the British House of Commons expressed the hope that her Majesty's Government would "lend their ready co-operation to the Government of the United States, upon the basis of the foregoing resolution."

The pending treaty, by which the two Governments agree to submit to arbitration, under certain limitations, "all questions in difference between them which they may fail to adjust by diplomatic negotiations," follows almost the precise words of the resolution of Congress. It is fair argument to say that none but the most cogent reasons could justify the rejection by Congress of a treaty thus negotiated in direct response to the invitation of the United States. In any case, the treaty is only to stand for five years, if either Government does not desire to have it continued, so that in 1902 it can be revised if defects are shown in its practical working.

Some of the supposed objections to the treaty are easily met. It is not true that questions of public policy are to be arbitrated. The questions to be submitted are pecuniary claims, territorial claims, and "all other matters in difference in respect to which either of the high contracting parties shall have rights against the other, under treaty or otherwise." The term "rights" can only mean legal rights. Great Britain, for example, could not be called upon to arbitrate the principle of the balance of power in Europe, nor could the United States be called upon to submit to the tribunal the now conceded Monroe doctrine. But it has been said that if the United States insisted on keeping European powers out of control of the Nicaragua Canal, across Central America, the new treaty would compel the republic to arbitrate her claims. As the claim would come under the Monroe doctrine, the treaty would not apply.

Then the provision for the settlement of territorial claims has been objected to, but the antagonism has no good foundation. All these claims, as well as every dispute involving principles of general importance affecting national rights, are to be dealt with by a court exclusively composed of United States and British judges, and such controversies cannot be decided against either country unless two out of three of its own representatives concur in thinking their country in the wrong. What could be fairer?

The treaty, it is contended with much power, protects the rights of both parties to it in a most effective way. It does not abolish war, but interposes many obstacles to that costly method of settling international disputes, while providing reasonable means of adjusting all difficulties. If, unfortunately, the parties should finally fail to reach an agreement, the resort to arms may take place. But the usefulness of the treaty lies in the fact that it is a practical acknowledgment by both nations that war is a barbaric method of settling disputes between civilized peoples, and that it is only to be thought of after every peaceful means has been tried and has failed.

Under the treaty it would be im-

possible to precipitate hostilities under the spur of heedless passion. "It will discourage the advocacy of war for reasons that cannot stand the scrutiny of an unimpassioned and well informed judgment. While not rendering war absolutely impossible, it will make it so improbable, so remote a contingency, that we shall be spared those wasteful disturbances of the business of the country which are sometimes caused by groundless rumors of impending conflict. It cannot fail, therefore, to be a strong safeguard of peace between the two great nations concerned in it, and—as the glorious example is likely to be followed by other countries—a blessing to mankind."

It is difficult to believe that the United States Senate will reject this treaty. It is an instrument fraught with the greatest possibilities. Not only will it promote peace and con-

cord between the mother nation and the English-speaking republic on this continent, but it will prove a striking object lesson to the debt-burdened nations of Europe, bowing under the oppression of militarism. It will blaze a pathway to everlasting peace, and promote international progress and amity.

We in Canada are more interested in it than any other portion of the British Empire, because there never has been a rupture between Great Britain and the United States in which we have not been made to suffer, though having no direct responsibility for the warfare. To us the passage of the treaty of arbitration will be a pledge that the present cordial international relationships shall not be interrupted, and that the fire-eaters on both sides of the line shall not be permitted to rule the roost, whensoever any little trouble may arise.

Special Cablegrams.

Another Tory Revolt in the House of Commons. Misappropriation of the India Famine Fund.

Gravity of the South African Situation—Society for the Protection of Patients—Lady Smokers—Imperial Soreheads—Novel Suit for Slander Settled.

London, Jan. 31.—The Conservative newspapers warmly protest against the protracted debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament. They claim debate was about nothing, and it reduced the House to a level of a provincial debating society. Friday's proceedings were the first piece of practical business, and it is an interesting fact that the Government's support in the debate on the action of the Board of Trade in the dispute between Lord Penrhyn and his quarrymen came from the Liberal benches. Not a single unofficial Tory defended the Government, and the Radical organs point to this as indicating a decline in the standard of parliamentary honor of the Tories, and ask what the latter cared about, since they apparently care nothing for their own bills, their own word or their own Government.

ANOTHER TORY REVOLT.
Pitiful strivings after protection caused another political revolt last week, when a hundred Tories went into the lobby against the Ministers. The revolt arose over Mr. Howard-Vincent's motion to extend the Merchandise Marks Act to all imported articles capable of being marked, and to substitute the general brand, "Foreign made," for the now famous "Made in Germany." "Made in the United States," etc. The Government showed that the Marks Act only served to advertise German and American goods, and greatly injure England's export trade by sending over sea customers direct to the foreigner. The bill, however, was rejected by 153 to 97, the Labor members, voting in its rejection, although the Trades Union Congress favored the measure.

THE IRISH PARTY IN THE HOUSE.
It is claimed that when the Irish members of the House of Commons withdrew their amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech, they made a serious technical error, which was equivalent to allowing Mr. Balfour, the Government leader in the House, to speak their game. The question of the financial question might have been effective in carrying the votes of the Irish "Unionists," but now it will be unwise to oppose the commission, which will be supported by all the "Unionists" and Scottish and English Liberals. The question, instead of being solely on the financial relations between Great Britain and Ireland, will develop into an inquiry into the financial relations between the different parts of the United Kingdom. Nevertheless, the session will not be barren for Ireland, if the Government's proposal to transfer Irish private bill legislation from Westminster to Dublin takes the form of a bill. The tenor of the Irish section of the Queen's speech and the Government's dependence upon time renders the appearance of such a measure doubtful, but it would undoubtedly pass if the Government should submit to it. All the Irish members are eager for such a bill, foreseeing that it would transfer much power and the expenditure of much money to Dublin.

FAMINE FUNDS MISAPPROPRIATED.

The famine in India spreads in area and increases in intensity. The famine fund fails to mount up so rapidly as to warrant the sanguine estimate that a total of £1,000,000 sterling will be reached. Thoroughly reliable and independent Indian voices concur in stating that relief will be required for about three and one-half million of people before the famine abates, the period of relief extending to September next. The urgent and prospective pressure of the situation has awakened public recollection to the existence of the famine insurance fund, initiated by Lord Lytton as Viceroy, after the famine of 1877. The Government of India then undertook to set apart annually £1,500,000 as a famine fund. A scheme of special taxation for this end was adopted and carried out. What has been done with the fund? It has been largely misappropriated for literary purposes, and, worse still, it has been drawn upon to give compensation allowances to the vast body of civilian and military officials in India, whose fixed salaries have suffered by the depreciation of the rupee. Even men who accepted office in India when the rupee stood at its lowest, and who knew what the sterling value of their salaries would amount to, have claimed and got out of the famine insurance fund compensation of it, but it turns out to be nothing tangible. If Americans think of contributing, the relief should be given in grain, tinneed meats or other foods, excepting grain, would touch the caste prejudices even of the famine-stricken.

THE COMPLIMENT TO THE COLONIES.

The Queen is credited with

the project of inviting the colonial Premiers to London, to take part in the year's festivities, but Mr. Chamberlain is probably the real author of the scheme. This is the first proposal for making the celebration a unique event, and meets at once with popular approval, especially as detachments of colonial troops will accompany the Premiers and furnish the material for a good town show. All other plans have been commonplace and failed to appeal to the popular imagination. Royal visitors have come and gone during the reign, but never before have self-governing colonies been represented by their Premiers and the bodyguards of these officials at a Queen's commemoration in the capital of a world-wide empire. Mr. Chamberlain's idea of inviting the Premiers is looked upon as a very clever move, as popular enthusiasm, though somewhat dampened by the threat of the possible presence of Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany at the feast, revives somewhat the notion of compensating Germany as the presence of a detachment of the local military forces from each colony.

EXTRA HONORS FOR THE QUEEN'S DAUGHTERS.

It is stated in certain circles that the Queen, upon the occasion of her 60th anniversary of ascending the throne, will create her daughters, Princess Helena, wife of Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein; Princess Louise, wife of the Marquis of Lorne, and Princess Beatrice, duchess of Drakengut, into duchesses in their own right. This will give the children of Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice, the daughters of German titles—a very important consideration in the minds of the British people. In the case of Princess Louise, very little importance will be attached to the dignity, for the reason that upon the death of his father her husband will become Duke of Argyll.

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPE.

The grave remarks of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, on the situation in South Africa, have created a deep impression, more especially as they were unexpected. The members assembled in the lobby afterwards, and discussed the passages of his remarks in which he hinted at dangerous undercurrents in affairs at the Cape, and remarked that South Africa was a "fence to the Transvaal was much sterner than his former utterances on the same subject. The Conservative newspapers greatly praise his remarks in which he intimated that "for persistence in injury and insult to the Boers will only result in the assertion once for all of British supremacy in South Africa." The Conservative and other papers point to the committee as expected to rake up evidence of Boer treachery and intrigue.

WHITTLING DOWN THE TREATY.

The full significance of the action of the Foreign Relations committee of the United States Senate was only known in London very late Saturday night, but at once it formed the subject of keen discussion in many clubs. There is a certain strong current of vexation at what is thought to be ill-considered attempts by the United States to whittle down the significance of the much-desired arbitration treaty. People, however, trust that the full Senate will be less sweeping and hostile when the question of amendments is brought under its notice.

PROTECTION OF PATIENTS.

A recent law case in which a nurse failed to make a famous hospital surgeon legally responsible for exceeding his instructions in a certain operation performed upon her, has resulted in the formation of a society for the protection of hospital patients. Tom Mann and other labor leaders have joined the society's provisional council, and the indications are that the society is likely to obtain considerable influence among workingmen and women, who, of course, furnish the great majority of the patients in hospitals, and who have long suspected that they merely serve the purpose of giving fashionable physicians opportunities for gaining experience, to be used for the benefit of the rich. The new society declares that this suspicion is well founded, and that to this is due the steady diminution of popular support of such institutions and the people's lack of confidence in them.

MISDIRECTED GENEROSITY.

The new millionaire class is making trouble by its philanthropic experiments. Mr. Ernest T. Hooley, after heaping up millions in Dunlop tires and other schemes of stock promoting, has proposed to distribute the income of \$400,000 among the poor of fifteen districts in Derbyshire through orders on grocers, doctors, druggists and coal dealers, adopting the charity organization plan. His generosity is recognized, but the wisdom of the method is questioned by many critics, who shrewdly forecast the swarming of paupers into the districts where the charity is doled out, and ultimately an increase in the burdens of the poor rates. Hooley is overreaching with warnings that he is setting a bad ex-

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SLANDER SUIT.

Two witnesses who opposed the licenses for the Oxford Music Hall at the recent session of the County Council, testified at the hearing about Miss Madge Ellis, one of the performers, appeared on the stage with bare legs. Miss Ellis promptly brought suit for slander, claiming \$500 damages. It has been settled, however, by the defendant agreeing to pay \$500 damages and to make a complete apology.

ROYAL LADY SMOKERS.

M. De Croix, the zealous secretary of a French anti-tobacco association, has issued a little manifesto on the subject of imperial and royal lady smokers. He sadly accepts the fact that cigarettes and even specially manufactured cigars are the cause of great demand in the courts of Europe. He makes, however, the consoling announcement that the young Czarina is a fervent believer in the views of the association, and has forbidden her ladies in waiting to smoke cigarettes in public.

LADY SCOTT'S PUNISHMENT.

There is to be no commutation of the sentence of eight months' imprisonment on Lady Scott for libelling her son-in-law, Earl Russell. Earl Cadogan and other of her friends have sought to obtain her release, but they have failed to shake the Home Secretary's decision not to set her at liberty. Her friends vainly offered to guarantee that she would never again meddle with Earl Russell, but the Home Secretary remained obdurate, and Lady Scott must pay the full penalty. The London papers uphold the Home Secretary. The only punishment she undergoes is being deprived of her liberty.

IMPERIAL SOREHEADS.

The anxiety respecting the Czar's health recalls the precarious position of most European thrones. The Czar's desire for a son and heir has been again frustrated. The German Emperor suffers from a distressing malady to which is attributed his vagaries, and his heir is a lad of 15. The King of Italy has been seriously ill, and the Crown Prince is in feeble health. The Austrian Emperor is old, and the King of Spain is a mere infant. The King of Portugal's son is only 10 years old. The Queen of England alone has no cause for anxiety in case of successors.

NOTE

T. P. O'Connor having sold his Evening Sun to a Tory syndicate, has become parliamentary sketch writer to the Daily Telegraph.

The Monroe-Metallist party in Parliament has been reconstituted to watch legislation, with Sir John Lubbock as chairman.

Ex-Emperor Frederick of Germany arrived at Osborne House Tuesday on a visit to the Queen, her mother.

Sir Joseph G. Colmer, secretary to the Canadian High Commissioner, will deliver a lecture before the Society of Arts on Feb. 16, on the subject of "Sixty Years' Progress of Canada."

The meeting will be presided over by the Marquis of Lorne, formerly Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada. The Graphic says it is rumored that Col. Cecil Rhodes brought with him to London documentary proof of the intrigues alleged to have taken place between President Kruger, of the Transvaal, and the German Government. It is claimed that the magnificent country house at Cape Town, belonging to Col. Cecil Rhodes, ruined by fire Feb. 15, was burned for the purpose of destroying these documents.

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