

THE TORONTO WORLD

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LAURIER AND THE CONFERENCE.

During the session of the Imperial conference The World on more than one occasion expressed its conviction that the premier of Canada had acquired by virtue of his clear appreciation of the Imperial situation, the leading place in this important council. Towards the British government or rather its permanent officialdom, still tinged as it is with the notion, inherited from earlier days, that it retains some intangible but none the less real predominance, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in his own words, felt his "first duty was to fix the character of the conference by declaring it to be a conference between government and government, and that all the representatives met on terms of perfect equality with the Imperial government. No doubt that assumption underlay the transactions of the previous conference and in theory it has been recognized and accepted by representatives of the outer Britains and by many individual statesmen of the motherland. But for the first time in history the Canadian premier seems to have prefaced the deliberations of the conference by an express claim for perfect equality of position on the part of the federal and self-governing communities, and to have had that claim officially allowed by the British government. While the admission is only a declaration of a place already won, it is of historic significance as marking the completion of an evolutionary movement which The World believes places the self-governing states of the empire on the only possible basis of relationship consonant at once with individual independence and united action.

But this was not all that Sir Wilfrid Laurier accomplished. His second and equally valuable contribution to higher Imperial politics was his determined opposition to any course that laid the conference open to the charge of attempting to influence the domestic policy of any of the imperial states. What rendered his attitude in this regard all the more praiseworthy was the fact that the point arose over the matter of inter-imperial preferential trade—an issue due in its origin to the action of his own government. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier saw, what some of his more enthusiastic friends in the conference failed to appreciate, that to establish a precedent of this nature was not only fraught with danger, but struck at the very root of an Imperial partnership. The conference was within its right in expressing the belief of the great majority of its members, that the establishment of a preferential arrangement would tend to strengthen the empire, but anything beyond this, and particularly any endeavor to force the hand of the British public, would at once have involved the conference in the party politics of the United Kingdom. The outer Britains have been insistent in their demand that there must be no interference by the British government or people in their domestic affairs, and it is their duty to be as careful not to encroach upon the equal right of the electors of the

United Kingdom to determine upon their own fiscal or other policy. The formulated opinion of the outer Britains is one of the factors before them in giving their decision—the weight to be attached to it as compared with the other elements more immediately affecting the United Kingdom must be in fairness left to their free volition.

Having thus powerfully aided in setting the Imperial conference on proper lines, the Canadian premier supported its regularization as an integral part of the Imperial machinery. The World was not able to agree with some of the more advanced British Imperialists who advocated the placing of the permanent secretariat under the control of the conference itself—at least not in the meantime. The time may come for this, indeed will probably come. But under present circumstances and while the governments of the outer Britains are fully occupied with the pressing duty of developing their own territories to the best advantage, it seems a prudent and reasonable step to place the secretariat in charge of the Imperial secretary of state, who is responsible for its proper conduct, not only to the British people, but to the other British states interested. British Imperialistic critics, saw in this a recrudescence of bureaucratic authority, but the objection cannot be allowed, and can only be attributed to a misconception of the true situation. The secretariat exercises no control, and is simply a convenient way of disseminating information of importance and facilitating consultation. The really effective negotiations are between the independent governments themselves, who are ultimately responsible to their own people. The last contribution made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the cause of Imperial union was his advocacy of the all-red line—a proposal which virtually makes Canada the main link of a great Imperial line of communication. It is now under consideration, but whether immediately accepted or not, the idea is pregnant with large possibilities which must sooner or later become actualities.

BRITAIN'S PROBLEM IN INDIA.

Lord Curzon, speaking recently in London, gave a somewhat more hopeful view of the situation in India than is taken by some other observers. In his view the unrest and agitation is limited to a very small section of the population. Out of the 300,000,000 under British rule, 250,000,000 had not the slightest idea of any unrest; at all, and of the remaining 50,000,000 a large proportion did not in the smallest degree share such sentiments. The wants of the great mass of the Indian people were, the ex-viceroy remarked, peasants engaged in the cultivation of the soil; their wants were not political, but material, and what the British had to give them was a just and liberal, a pure and efficient administration. So long, he said, as they did that there was not the slightest fear of the Indian populace being found on the side of rebellion, unless some great wave of racial feeling should be aroused which would destroy the balance of their reason and sweep them into the cause of disorder.

At this time there is, from whatever cause, arising a general movement in many eastern countries making for a greater measure of self-government. It is conspicuous in Egypt as in India, and it is being met by the sympathy of those estimable but impossible theorists who cling firmly to the conviction that democratic institutions carry with them the assurance of success, irrespective of the character and condition of the people who are to be entrusted with their exercise. The earnestness and good faith of this contention may be admitted, but it is opposed to all the teaching of history and experience. Nations that, without preparatory training in the art of self-government, have been invested with or have assumed the forms of democracy have invariably misused their powers, and only after many vicissitudes and alterations between despotism and license have succeeded in reaching a more or less stable equilibrium.

One of the curious paradoxes of history is the present challenge which Britain is undergoing to justify her methods of governing eastern races. What ever may have happened in earlier days, it can hardly be questioned that for half a century the dominant features of British rule in Asia have been the preservation of peace, fair and just administration and an increasing desire to employ natives in positions of trust and responsibility. When these blessings are first bestowed, the subject peoples are grateful and satisfied, but when generations come that have known no other condition and have enjoyed the advantage of a liberal education, also the gift of the alien government, then also comes discontent and agitation. Then also follows the ironic consummation that the rulers who have made these enlarged aspirations possible are pilloried as the barriers against their realization. Infinite patience and prudence will be needed to tide countries like India and Egypt over this transitional period, which must be long and whose arbitrary termination could not but introduce worse evils.

ELECTRIC SMELTING IN CANADA.

In connection with the proposed utilization of Ashbridge's Bay as a site for a new smelter the recent report made by Dr. Haanel, superintendent of mines, to the Dominion government becomes of more than usual interest. It contains the results of the experiments carried out by him at Sault Ste. Marie

during 1905. In the electric smelting of Canadian magnetite ore. So successful were these experiments that Dr. Haanel is sanguine they will make Canada independent of other countries for her iron and steel supplies, and also a formidable competitor in outside markets.

The superintendent says that the very best of pig iron can be made from Canadian magnetites, whose excess of sulphur prohibits their treatment in a blast furnace, and affirms that ore containing as much as 15 per cent. of sulphur can be converted by the electric process. As Canada has an abundance of low-priced ore of this class, and also plenty of cheap power, the future of our pig iron industry seems, on the strength of these experiments, to be assured.

DEPARTMENTAL EXAMS.

Editor World: The annual departmental examinations, although under the new regime, seem, in some papers, little improvement on the past. There is an expert superintendent of education, an expert advisory council, and an "expert" registrar. All are trained teachers of many years' experience. Here is one example of the regard the examiners have for the regulations governing the examinations which concern some thousands of hard-working students: I take the junior matriculation history paper. B. which should be based on the outlines of Greek and Roman history, and what do I find?

Every question on the paper is on Greek history; the Roman history is really ignored. It may not be a direct violation of the literal meaning of the regulations, but it is their spirit. On the authority of these regulations the teachers base their year's work. Is it fair to frame a paper such as this, I indicate? There are two places in Q. 5 connected with Roman history—a Roman remnant.

Mr. Editor, it has come to this, that someone, other than the unfortunate students, who cannot defend themselves, must suffer for such snags and stupid blunders as are perpetrated on the Ontario public year in and year out. The examiners surely have poor judgment. They are surely without average experience. Is it fair to put young inexperienced men on as examiners? Is not time that there will be a stop put to this? How did this paper escape Registrar Houston's notice? He is chairman of the board of examiners. There is no use in expecting fair play any longer. The case seems incurably hopeless. The examiners in senior teachers' physics save a paper this is regarded as "fierce" in its severity. The zoology paper has a question in languages! The technical names of two kinds of fishes are given—gonus clupeiformis and coregonus arcticus. It is useful science to ask what information is conveyed by the scientific names? Spencer says the varied forms of animal life are about two million years old—a beginning in the list. I believe in fair play. Let us raise the standard of education by means that are based on justice and common sense and of which we shall be proud.

In regard to the history paper, it is no answer to say that the paper was granted, but the common sense says the regulations are also very easy to interpret. The examiners surely prove the "improvement of heredity" in their names should be written "bloody and iron." But with an old principal of a high school as registrar and chairman of the board of examiners, and an elected advisory council composed of practical teachers—two high school teachers, two public school inspectors, four public school teachers, one Sunday school teacher, and a legion of university professors, etc., etc., to infinity; and a superintendent who has to pass on these papers and regulations, one would scarcely expect any errors of judgment in any papers—I mean any stupid or tricky blunders like the one I mention. The history paper is not hard. One would think that an examiner had just picked up the book and begun at page 1, continuing consecutively until he got the right number of questions. It was taken out of the text even if he heavily material in the preface: next time he will begin where he left off this time. May the publisher of the book be reached for half an hour late. The blow was over by the time the late book left the publisher's hands. The afternoon had had so unpleasant a "te-tination," the city was under the Niagara district on Sunday said the fruit crop was not damaged by the hail.

THE LORDLY MILLIONS.

The Difference Between the Passive Dollar and the Enterprising Coin.

The average amount of money on deposit in the Canadian banks is over \$400,000,000. The banks pay the depositors 3 per cent. while bank stocks do not average more than 5 per cent. to their shareholders or the present holders of the stock.

The manufacturing supremacy of the United States has been due in great measure to the fact that the savings deposits per capita in that country are smaller because the men who save money invest in the more lucrative industrial stocks.

But Canada is waking up to the value of its own resources, and the money now lying in the banks will be put in the channels which have made so many American millionaires. A shoe merchant in the United States, who adopted many of the ideas embraced in the system which has done so much for the Slater Shoe Company in Canada, recently sold his goodwill value to a new company for \$2,500,000. This young man was in business but fifteen years. While clerking for a shoe house, he saw that the secret of success in a commercial country was to build up a direct interest in a well-established concern. That the same shoe system in Canada should be valued at \$1,000,000 is an evidence of the relative growth of this country.

The basic idea of the Slater Shoe Company, as set forth in a recent magazine article, was to eliminate the unnecessary costs and sell a shoe at close prices and at the same prices to everybody. With the faith they earned by good faith they have, so increased their volume of business that they can sell a shoe of nearly as good value as before the cost of leather was advanced.

P. M. Employees at Chatham.

CHATHAM, July 20.—Like an invading army, the peaceful one came the Pure Marquette-Buffalo divette excursionists to Chatham this morning. They numbered 2200. By 10 o'clock nearly all the excursionists had reached the station. The committees were escorted from the station to headquarters, headed by the regimental band.

Some Items Condensed From the Sunday World

Thirty persons were killed and a large number injured in a wreck of a Pere Marquette train at Salem, Mich.

A mob at Seoul made a determined attempt to slay the members of the Korean cabinet, who were protected by Japanese troops. It is reported that the dethroned emperor secretly gave orders to the imperial guard to murder the entire ministry. In his farewell address the emperor said that in his 44 years' reign he had met with many disturbances and had not realized his own desire. "The times are contrary to natural events," he complained.

Edmund, son of J. W. Royce of Minnetonka, was drowned in New Ontario in Long Lake.

Mrs. Russell Sage has given \$250,000 to the association for the relief of respectable aged indigent females in the City of New York.

The body of the baby which was reported to have been stolen from the Moughs was found in another part of the building on Saturday by Detective Wallace.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, addressing the folk at Three Rivers, Que., said he would surrender all the honors he has won if only he could regain the days of his youth.

New York City was enveloped in a dense fog on Saturday.

Fire due to a gasoline explosion at 575 Bathurst-st. Sunday morning, caused several thousand dollars' damage to surrounding buildings.

The formation of some rule for U. S. consular officers in regard to the celebration of the fourth of July will be undertaken by the state department. Reports of friction in Canada have caused it.

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Hugh Sutherland, an East Nisourite, hanged himself in his barn on Friday.

EXCURSIONISTS TOSSED BY GALE ON SOUTH SHORE.

Hail and Electric Storm Churns Lake Into Foam on Saturday.

Passengers on the Niagara River line steamers on Saturday had the rather unusual experience of being in the worst of an electrical and hail storm in mid-July. The storm came up about noon, sweeping the Niagara River and Lake Ontario and churning the waters into a white foam.

At Lewiston halibutones as large as eggs fell over a considerable area. The size of the stones is vouched for by several reputable excursionists, who told the story of the outbreak of nature to The World. For some time the wind blew with a terrible velocity, washing the waves over the main deck of the Niagara Navigation Company's boats. The wind was in the river. Heavy and continued thunder and sharp flashes of lightning accompanied the storm. The rain was so heavy that the pleasure of many excursion parties, which left the city on Saturday for points on the south shore.

The electrical discharges were so heavy that the power house were shut down and the cars were held up for several hours.

Those who left Toronto for the afternoon on the 6 o'clock boats received a great and most unpleasant surprise when they got beyond the shelter of the island and out into the open. The wind was then at its height, and, having veered round to north and northwest, was blowing with a force of 40 miles an hour, as the big ships squared away before their decks were liberally sprinkled with hail. The wind was so heavy that it was a struggle to make headway, and in several instances it reached port half an hour late. The blow was over by the time the late boats left the city. The afternoon had had so unpleasant a "te-tination," the city was under the Niagara district on Sunday said the fruit crop was not damaged by the hail.

THE ARMY AND NAVY VETERANS.

Editor World: The Imperial Army and Navy Veterans' Association have formed from a body of men that had served in the Imperial army and who took part with the citizens celebrating the first jubilee of our late Queen. This is the first association formed in the British empire. Australia was the second and Chatham, England, the third. Now they are all over the British empire. The Toronto Association has done a great work. The membership is \$3 per year. At death \$50 is paid for funeral expenses. On account of the large number of deaths during the twenty years a large sum has been paid out of the fund. At the last meeting a balance of \$1588.14 was in the bank.

The association has had to handle the cases of men that would not become members. At the last meeting they had to collect funds from friends of the association to get the funeral expenses of the late Queen. The association is now working to get the bodies from going to the Medical College, to assist the sick comrades by granting money out of a contingent fund collected from the members, field marshals, lords and dukes and generals—a list too long to mention. The association has always done our best for our comrades out of employment to find them places that they were suitable for.

The association was the means of getting a monument that cost over \$4000 erected on the old Military Cemetery, Portland-street, to the memory of officers and men of the British regiments and Canadian militia that took part in the war of 1812. Also the regiments that served in York, now Toronto.

When the war office made a change in the military system, making all the English, Irish and Scotch militia and volunteers linked to battalions and taking the same name as the regiments they were linked to, the association then considered and by a standing vote passed that the association was open for all men that had served and were discharged from the militia volunteers in the British empire. We have the 5th Royal Scots, Montreal, linked to the Black Watch and the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, to the Gordon Highlanders. It was considered they were all defenders of the British empire, so the association is open for all comrades that have served the King and the British Empire. The late Alexander Muir (Maple Leaf) when he died was a member. We have a number more. Our president, Major Collins, has done a great work by assisting and giving his time for the good of the association.

The association has been started in Toronto, named the Imperial Army and Navy League, Capt. Drayton, now the president. The association will do no work they want to do, done well now by the oldest association in Toronto. What should be linked to a unit of the whole into one, the same lines as the oldest, open to all men that have served.

SWEET CAPORAL.

A letter received at the Canadian National Exhibition offices from Major E. T. Lea, London, honorary secretary of the National Artillery Association, states that the volunteer artillery team that is coming to Canada to compete at Petawawa and Halifax will consist of five officers and thirty-five non-commissioned officers and men. Major Lea also states that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to present a cup of the value of £100 for competition, which will be brought out by the British team, which is under the command of Col. Sidney Wisnart, V.D., First City of London, R.G.A. Other officers are: Capt. G. W. Daynes, First Norfolk, R.G.A.; Capt. Frank P. Boda, First Edinburgh, R.G.A.; Capt. E. Flowers, second Hants, R.G.A., and Lieut. A. P. Boxall, First Sussex, R.G.A.

It is possible the team will visit the exhibition after the competition at Petawawa, and will be invited to fire a salute on the opening day.

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the United States Government out of coal lands.

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CIGARETTES

Continuing the Early Closing program the store will close each Saturday of July and August at 1 p. m.

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We're going to take just about two minutes to tell you of a "rush" chair inducement for Tuesday morning.

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O'KEEFE'S "Pilsener" Lager is brewed with filtered water, choicest hops and pure barley malt. It is always fully aged, filtered again before bottling and pasteurized.

It is the Ideal Beer for the Home. As famous for purity, as for its delightful flavor. Insist that your dealer always send O'KEEFE'S "PILSENER."

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Cor. York and Gould
Cor. College and Ossington
Toronto Junction.

A Bank which has conducted a conservative business since 1872, and has steadily increased its assets until they now amount to over thirty-two million dollars, is surely a safe institution to be entrusted with your savings.

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Money cannot buy better Coffee than Michie's finest blend Java and Mocha, 45c lb.

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