

ther consideration of the subject, to endorse any British Act of Parliament with such an aim, are nevertheless strongly of the opinion that it would be of great advantage to trader and consumer in every part of the Empire to have a system of registration of trade marks and brands, which would protect British and Colonial manufacturers or dealers, as well as consumers all over the Empire. People who have resided long on this continent, and know the extent to which the goods of famed manufacturers are fraudulently imitated and branded, can have but one opinion upon this subject, and that in unison with the views of your committee. Besides the brands of some of our own exported goods are already in favor in foreign markets, and require protection against spurious imitations. In Great Britain the law is such that perfect protection to brands and trade marks is afforded, and in Canada the law protects British manufactures from fraudulent imitation, but the protection is incomplete so long as it does not extend over and include every portion of the Empire.

#### COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

On subject No. 7, advocating the spread of commercial education, and the adoption of the scheme initiated by the London Chamber of Commerce, your committee has not had time to consider the scheme thus advocated, and prefers not to bind the Board to any special scheme, while advising the hearty indorsement of any movement calculated to bring commercial affairs more into a line as a branch of popular education very necessary in every country of the Empire. Specially would your committee recommend a closer study in Great Britain of the geography of the colonies, and a little more study in the colonies of the geography of portions of the Empire outside of their own limits. The lack of this knowledge by many is the source of many a serious misunderstanding.

#### EMIGRATION.

On subject No. 8 namely, Emigration and Colonization, your committee realize that a good opportunity will be offered to your delegates to further the interests of the Northwest, and clear many of the misunderstandings and misapprehensions which exist in the British mind regarding this country. Your committee favor the directing by every possible means of British emigration towards British Colonies, and a careful discrimination as to the classes of settlers sent to each colony. They believe strong efforts should be made by the Government and people of Great Britain to prevent the flow of British surplus population to foreign countries, thus allowing the power of the Empire to be converted into alien strength, and used to build up alien power, while the greatest want of nearly every British Colony is one of population.

#### THE DECIMAL SYSTEM.

On subject No. 9, namely, the necessity of an Imperial system of decimal currency, weights and measures, your committee have decided that an unflinching support should be given by your delegates. Outside of the tantalizing intricacies connected with the variety of currency in use throughout the Empire, which must form a great barrier to closer trade intercourse between the different portions thereof, those connected with weights and measures are even greater barriers. In the matter of wheat for instance, we in Canada, with the exception of British Columbia, quote, buy and sell by the bushel of sixty pounds; in Liverpool cents or

hundred pound weights are the rule, while in London the quarter or eight of our bushels is the gauge for quotations. To be abreast of this advanced age of the world our system of weights, measures and currency generally should be reduced to uniform decimal basis, so that the market reports from all parts of the Empire would be understood and comprehended at a glance.

#### PENNY POSTAGE.

On subjects Nos. 10 and 11, the former being an Imperial system of Penny Postage, and the latter Direct Telegraph communication throughout the Empire, your committee advise a hearty support, believing that the penny postage system would be a great impetus to the extension of trade between the different parts of the Empire, while direct telegraphic communication would be an inestimable benefit to exporters and importers both in the Mother Country and the Colonies, and especially to business men in Canada, who have to depend for cable communication with the outside world and the British Isles upon the lines of foreign corporations, whose interests may be in direct opposition to those of Canadian trade.

#### THE BREAD SUPPLY.

With these suggestions your committee have disposed of all the subjects to be laid before the coming congress by the London Chamber of Commerce, and as that body have invited the introduction of new subjects from Colonial Boards, your committee suggest, that the subject of "A Colonial bread supply for the British Isles" be proposed as one suitable for discussion at the Congress, being one in which the Mother Country and nearly all its Colonies are directly and deeply interested, and one which is of primary importance to this great Northwest.

Your committee desire to express their views upon the subject as concisely as possible, and have accordingly put them in the shape of the following resolution, which they suggest should be forwarded by our Board to the Secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce as one of the subjects to be discussed, at the forthcoming Congress.

Resolved. That in the opinion of this Congress the time has come, or is close at hand, when the people of Great Britain can with confidence look to the Colonies and dependencies of the Empire for that portion of their bread-stuffs, which they find it necessary to import from year to year. The rapid development of grain production in Canada, India and Australasia during the past ten years clearly indicates that these countries will soon have annually an export surplus of grain in excess of the annual import demand of the British Isles, and it will be altogether unnecessary for the latter to look for supplies to foreign countries, and especially to those whose tariff laws are so framed as to strike specially at the trade interests of Great Britain and British Colonies. That this Congress sees the best method of securing this end by a system in the Mother Country of tariff discriminating against the grain and other food products of foreign nations, and in favor of the import of such goods from the Colonies and dependencies; and a similar discrimination by the Colonies and dependencies in connection with tariff on other goods required to be imported by them. That this Congress favors such a movement believing that its enforcement would serve as

a check upon the national selfishness which at the present time seems to inspire many nations in the framing of their tariff laws; and that its enforcement would prove a commercial counter-irritant, which would in a comparatively few years practically force the great nations of the world into a much freer system of trade intercourse, than now exists between them. That this Congress has implicit confidence in our Great Empire, on which the sun never sets, to produce every commodity necessary for its peoples' comfort and happiness as cheaply, if not more cheaply than they can be produced by other countries.

The foregoing suggestions on matters to be laid before the coming Congress, and the resolution also submitted, your committee believe should be sufficiently lucid and decided to form a ground work of instructions to any delegates this Board may send to the coming Congress, and while submitting all for your consideration, they ask for the adoption of this report, believing that this is in harmony with the best interests of this city, this province and Dominion, as well as those of the Empire of which they form a part.

#### The Antiquity of Civilization.

We cannot but be struck with the immense antiquity of civilization in Western Asia, whence, as a certain, trade, art, and literature spread westward to the Greeks and Italians, and eastward to India and China. The monuments show that at least as early as 2500 B. C. distinct civilizations existed in Chaldea, in Syria, and in Egypt. It is true that the early date which has been assigned to Menes, by scholars who reckon thirty years as the average reign of an Egyptian monarch (whereas the dated reigns often do not exceed five or six), rests on no secure basis, and extravagant estimates, based on equally unsafe deductions, have been offered by some of our cuneiform scholars, who would carry back Akkadian civilization to 4000 B. C.; but these extravagances do not discredit the facts that are deduced from better data, and which show that the even earlier than the period usually assigned as the time when the pastoral Hebrew patriarchs found their way along the Euphrates and through Syria to Egypt, there were organized states, walled towns, chariots, and horses, riches of gold and silver, bronze and iron, of corn, wine and oil, not only among the Akkadians and in Egypt, but also in Phœnicia and in Palestine.

—The Edinburgh Review.

#### Lift Your Hat to Her.

Lift your hat reverently, says the New York Recorder, when you pass the teacher of the primary school. She is the great angel of the nation. She takes the banishing fresh from the home nest, full of pouts and passions—an ungovernable little wretch whose own mother honestly admits she sends him to school to get rid of him. This lady, who knows her business, takes a whole carload of these little anarchists, one of whom, single-handed and alone, is more than a match for his parents, and at once puts them in a way of being useful and upright citizens. At what expense of toil and patience and soul weariness! Lift your hat to her!

H. C. Russell & Co., iron railroad supplies, etc., Montreal, have assigned.