

THE FAST LINE.

SIR DONALD SMITH arose amid applause, and expressed the privilege he felt at being present. They were to have in Canada this summer the British Association and the British Medical Association, including men from every part of the United Kingdom. He trusted that the visitors would prove to be the very best sort of agents to advertise the advantages of this country in Great Britain. Referring to the growth of the grain trade in the Western States, he said the settlers in Manitoba and the North-West Territories possessed even greater advantages. He did not see why, if the proper means were employed, there should not be, within a comparatively short time, a population in the North-West which would ensure the prosperity of the whole Dominion. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of the projected fast line steamship service, he thought if properly managed it could not fail to be a commercial success. This was not a party question. (Hear, hear.) On this subject he moved the following resolution: "That this League views with satisfaction the prospect of the early establishment of a line of fast steamers between this country and Europe, and expresses the hope that before long Canada may have facilities of transport across the Atlantic equal to those employed by any other country." Continuing, and speaking on the subject of preferential trade, he hoped that with the help of the Colonial Secretary and other Ministers of the Crown further steps in that direction would soon be taken. He moved the resolution in no party spirit, but solely with an eye to the best interests of the country. (Hear, hear.) Other countries had been moving in this direction for years. Why should Canada be behind? They were determined not to be behind. (Hear, hear.)

MR. ALEX. MCNEILL, who seconded the resolution, briefly expressed his pleasure at the notable advance made by the movement, which was especially significant in the jubilee year.