

WHILE THERE IS TIME

over the world. We cannot imagine Canada losing out by one vote and having to accept, let us say, Asiatic immigration. Vital things will be settled in some other way. Hence we do not need to prepare ourselves for such academic emergencies by trying to weld all the empire together with a unit, with a foreign policy settled for all by a joint board. The Empire simply won't and can't weld into that. Its different parts have not sufficient contact and relationship.

But in any special emergency all the Dominions of the Empire can endeavour for the sake of common sense to act on common ground in any large world question. They don't need to bind themselves beforehand. They merely need to "go into a huddle" as do football players in a rugby game. If they can't agree they must act separately: but in that case a prearrangement wouldn't have held them anyway.

You cannot visualize the Empire as made up of the United Kingdom and the Dominions each over against the others. It isn't so. The Dominions are like the spokes of a wheel each centred in the hub. The connections and contacts with one another are, as yet, very slight. What is Newfoundland to New Zealand, or even, what is Australia to Canada? Still more perplexing is the situation if India becomes a Dominion. What is India to Canada? A "Dominion," whose inhabitants we debar from our country, with whom we do not and cannot intermarry or intermingle, whose system of "caste" and "untouchable"