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WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF
SAM. HUGHES,
MEMBER FOR VICTORIA AND HALIBURTON, CANADA.

SPEECH

Delivered in Canadian House of Commons, on MONDAY, MARCH 13th, 1905,
upon the proposal for

FULL PARTNERSHIP UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES,

In a New, Independent, Imperial Parliament.

TYPICAL BRITISH PRESS COMMENTS ON THE DEBATE ON COL. HUGHES' MOTION.

The Saturday Review, London, England, says:—

"The vigorous debate on Federation at Ottawa had no immediate issue, but Col. Hughes, who brought forward the motion, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the leader of the Opposition, who supported it, showed a united conviction that a constitutional crisis is approaching. The people in England have not at all realized the immense change. It is not a small thing that Canada has decided to supply the defences of Halifax and Esquimalt. In England nobody is much concerned with this bagatelle, but in Canada the whole French population, whose growing numbers and power it would be foolish to undervalue, regard this little expenditure of £40,000 as a proud step towards, at any rate, qualified independence. Colonel Hughes did good work by showing the vast sum which would be spent by Canada if she were independent, and it is entirely in accordance with our experience that the desire for independence, mild as it is, has completely superseded that tendency towards annexation which Goldwin Smith still preaches from his retreat in Toronto."

The Outlook says:—

"With all his great qualities Sir Wilfrid Laurier seldom shines, on these festivals of the Imperial spirit in the great daughter parliament of the Dominion; the caution of the 'habitant,' which is the basis of his character, caused him to preach a doctrine of contentment yet again in somewhat lacklustre language, but Mr. Borden, who leads 'His Majesty's Opposition' at Ottawa, in most statesmanlike way did not lose the opportunity of saying that which all Canadians are thinking. He did not hesitate to endorse the previous speakers who expressed the universal opinion that the commercial defence of the Empire was the necessary foundation of all military or political union."

THE WAR AND THE NAVY.

The Statist, London, referring to the Hughes resolution, says:—

"Once the war in the Far East is over people will soon come to recognise how immense a change has come over the relations of all states with one another, the colonies will see that what is called the British navy is as much a means of protecting themselves as of protecting the United Kingdom and therefore will fully understand that the navy must be made adequate; but if they are to contribute, as they ought to contribute, to the navy, it is perfectly certain they must have a voice in the management of the affairs of the Empire."

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