

The second resolution was adopted with an amendment by Mr. Baxter, substituting the words "section of the Board of Trade relating to building and construction industries" for the words "Board of Trade of any locality."

It was suggested that the resolution be amended to provide for a permanent, paid secretary. The Conference decided that this matter should be left to the executive, although all agreed that such an official would be



**Senator G. D. Robertson, the New Minister of Labor, who Addressed the Conference**

necessary if it be desired to carry on the good work effected by the Conference.

The third resolution was adopted with an amendment proposed by Mr. Dillon, that all members of the association be eligible to any office. Another amendment was made to this resolution at a later meeting, in order to eliminate all possibilities of sectional differences between "east" and "west"; the offices of the "first" and "second" vice-pres-

ident being abolished and nine vice-presidencies being created in order that there might be a vice-president from each of the nine provinces in the Dominion.

Norman McLean, of Vancouver, requested a discussion of the objects of the association and urged a reconsideration of the preamble of resolution No. 1. He moved that the words "and for the purpose of aiding the government in all matters belonging or appertaining thereto" be added to the preamble.

The chairman, Mr. Armstrong, said that it is the duty of every citizen to assist the government as much as possible and ruled Mr. McLean's motion "out of order."

G. B. Greene, supported by a number of others, made a hard fight to have the preamble remoulded to express broader and higher ideals, feeling that the resolution as adopted was too entirely self-seeking in the business interests of the members of the association and that it did not truly represent the original and actuating motives which had led to the calling of the Conference. A motion by Mr. McLean, seconded by Mr. Greene, that the preamble of resolution No. 1 be referred back to the committee for further discussion of the aims and objects of the organization, was lost by a very close vote.

### Report of the Committee on "Building Situation"

Arthur Dinnis, of Toronto, presented the report of the committee on "Building Situation." This report took the form of a resolution that the Conference present certain requests to the government and it was adopted with some minor amendments. The list of requests embodied in the resolution appears on page 488 of this issue.

Mr. Oakley enquired whether raw or finished products were meant when the government is asked to use only Canadian materials. Mr. Dinnis replied that the resolution embraced both raw and finished products. The committee had been of the opinion that every encouragement should be given by the government to the development of Canadian sources of raw materials of all kinds, whether by subsidies, adjustment of freight rates, tariff revision or otherwise.

Mr. Oakley explained that he is interested in the cut stone business and said that nine-tenths of the men in that industry would have to go out of business if they were forced to use only Canadian stone. We have stone in Canada but there are imported stones that are more adaptable, notably Ohio sandstone and Indiana limestone. All the stone for the building in which the meeting was being held (the Chateau Laurier), for instance, had been cut in Bedford, Indiana. Some years ago the stone interests of Canada had interviewed Sir Thomas White and he had agreed that the artisans of Canada should be encouraged in the work of cutting the stone, but had not thought it advisable to restrict the importation of the raw material. A higher tariff had then been imposed on the finished product, with the result that there are now in Canada establishments for the dressing of stone that compare favorably with the best United States plants.

### Lumber and Steel Difficulties

William Rutherford, of Montreal, spoke for the lumber interests, asserting that there are a great many economically useful varieties of wood that are not grown in Canada. The exclusive use of Canadian materials is desirable, "if possible,"

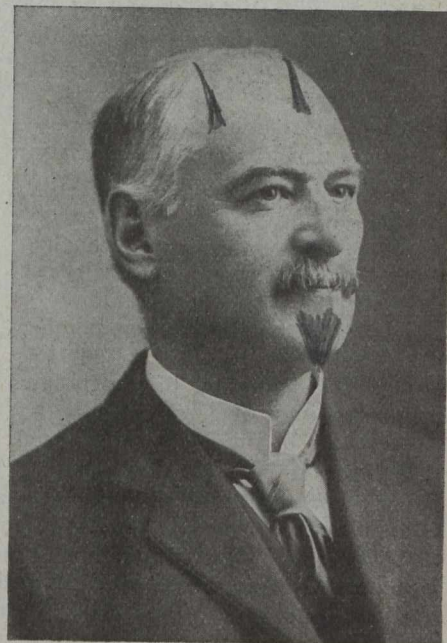
said Mr. Rutherford, but those words "if possible" should be included in the request that only Canadian materials be used.

John W. Seens, of Montreal, told about the difficulties in the way of getting a supply of steel all "made in Canada." The largest beam rolled in this country, for example, is an 8-in. beam, and 4" x 4" is the largest angle.

The cost of establishing mills for rolling large sections is too great to expect such mills to be built in Canada until the demand is greater than at present, although he had no doubt but that such mills would some day be erected in Canada.

Charles Lowrey, of the Queenston Quarry Co., St. Davids, Ont., spoke from the other side of the controversy, claiming that Canadian stone industries are lying idle while great quantities of stone are being imported, and he advocated the development of domestic resources.

It was decided by vote of the Conference to insert the words "if possible" when approaching the government.



**Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Railways and Canals, Who Spoke for the Government**