

proven. The Premier is generally himself a member of the popular House. The recent Premier, Sir John J. C. Abbott, was a member of the Senate; but this is unusual, for the Premier is almost necessarily the leader of the majority in the House of Commons. Thus, the Canadian Premier reaches his position by means of a ladder. The President, on the other hand, reaches his by a flying leap. He is not necessarily a tried member of Congress, nor is it usual for him to have had any experience in Congress. A favorable condition is that he shall have been Governor of some state, but such a qualification as this is not necessary. But he is usually a statesman marked by superior qualities, and is chosen by the party caucus because he can control his own state, and not be unacceptable to the other states. The less experience in public life he has had, the fewer enemies he is likely to have, and the less there is to be said against him.

Another strong point of contrast is the definite period during which a President holds his office, and the indefinite period during which the Premier holds his. The President is elected for a term of four years, and in no way is he in danger of being removed, except by means of an improbable impeachment. He may be re-elected for a second term, but custom prevents a third. In Canada, Sir John Macdonald held office from 1867 to 1874, and again from 1878 to the time of his death in 1891. His supporters in Parliament had to seek re-election, at least once in every five years; but he himself was re-appointed but once, and that in 1873. The Premier holds office as long as there is a majority of members in the House of Commons who favor his Premiership. He and his cabinet must command the confidence of the people sufficiently to procure a majority of supporters in the House of Commons, and as long as this majority support them and their policy, so long will they retain office.

It will now be in order to compare the powers and duties of the Premier and the President. One of the greatest of the prerogatives of the President is that he has control of all diplomatic action. He it is who meets the representatives of other nations or conducts the correspondence concerning the negotiation of all treaties entered into by the nation. When these treaties are ratified by the Senate, they rank higher in legal status than acts of Congress. This power, by the Canadian constitution, is vested in the Imperial authorities, and it is the lack of this power which derogates so much from the dignity of the office of the Canadian Premier, while at the same time it adds much to the office of President. It is often pointed out by critics of the United States' system of government, that in regard to treaties, the Senate is master, and the President servant. This is said because these treaties must be ratified by the Senate, in a session so secret that even the President is excluded. Although this may defeat the President's wishes in some few cases when the Senate does not think the same in matters of trade and commerce as he does, yet his treaties are, in the majority of cases, treated with respect. He is, to other nations, the head of the United States, and as such respected by them, no matter how much bickering he may have with his Congress at home. Of late years, Great Britain has seen fit to give Canada a direct share in negotiating treaties with the United States, and this is undoubtedly but the beginning of a favor which will soon be extended to a constitutional convention, so that the Canadian Premier or one of his Cabinet will one day be able to negotiate treaties with all nations friendly to Great Britain.

The President has power to appoint all officers of the Federal Government. In case of the nomination of ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, of judges of the courts of the United States, and the chief depart-