

A COLONIAL ZOLLVEREIN

BY WATSON GRIFFIN.

The weakness of the British empire lies in the fact that the colonies, although equal to the mother country, are not in touch with one another. What

It is probable that most of them would soon follow Canada's example in making the tariff on foreign imports much higher than 20 per cent.

The present trade between the British colonies is so small that none of them would lose a large amount of revenue by the immediate abolition of all duties on the products of sister colonies.

It may be objected that such a customs arrangement between the British colonies could not with strict accuracy be called a *zollverein*. The word "*zollverein*" has been generally used in the past to designate a customs union of German states before the establishment of the empire, and it has been said that it can only be applied to a union of contiguous countries under a common customs and common system of collecting duties. However, there is no good reason why the word *zollverein* should be restricted to such a meaning. Being derived from "*zoll*"—duty—and "*verein*"—union—it is susceptible of a broad designation, and it is the most convenient word to describe a free trade union of British colonies with protection against foreign countries. If the Australian colonies and the Canadian Dominion were contiguous it would be as important to impose a common tariff on imports from a common tariff area as it would be to secure commercial union or "unrestricted trade" between Canada and the United States unless the Dominion and the Republic could agree to impose precisely the same duties on all articles imported from other countries, and have a common system of collecting duties, but the fact that the United Kingdom, New Zealand and South Africa are separated by thousands of miles of ocean makes it impossible to arrange for such a union between them without any one of them relinquishing control over its own tariff.

It is not likely that the United Kingdom would very soon agree to impose a protective tariff of not less than 20 per cent. against foreign products for the sake of securing free trade within the empire, but if the British parliament would adopt such a tariff the preference for colonial products in the British market would so greatly stimulate the development of Canada that our manufacturers would be able to export to the United Kingdom all the goods and stores of raw materials that the United Kingdom, and cheaper power, owing to our numerous waterfalls. Under a system of Imperial preferential trade the rates of interest and the wages of labor would soon become equalized. It would be a great blunder to reduce the protection which our manufacturers have at present to secure so long as our products receive no better treatment in the British market than foreign products, and even a small discrimination in our favor would not be sufficient compensation for free admission of British products into Canada, but if colonial products were given not less than 20 per cent. protection in the British market it would be an altogether different matter. The United Kingdom would be merely an expansion of protection for Canadian producers, and not only would the farming population of the Dominion increase so rapidly as to create an enormous demand for manufactured goods, but the exports of many kinds of Canadian manufactures would be high enough to justify the free admission of British goods into Canada could not be expected immediately, but it might eventually come about as a result of a colonial Zollverein, and in the meantime if Canada's general tariff were as high as that of the United States we could afford to offer British producers a special rate of preference for all Canadian products in the British markets.

PROTECTING HOME INSURANCE.
New Casualty Company Will Go
After Foreign Business.

In spite of the circumstances that in no field of finance have Canadian companies encountered more strenuous opposition from foreign companies than in insurance operations, the

business of Canadian accident companies has grown steadily, and their profits have increased accordingly.

The fact remains, however, that many American companies have been reaping a rich harvest in accident insurance in this country, and are now regarding with some concern the

formation of the Canadian Casualty Company, which will take over a large amount of this business, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The Canadian Casualty Company will have upon its directorate

well-known men, representing public and financial interests in every section of the Dominion, most of whom have already been mentioned in The World. The company is offering for public subscription a limited number of shares of the par value of one hundred dollars each.

hundred dollars each, a one hundred and twenty dollars per share. The general manager of the company is Mr. A. G. C. Dinnick, and the head office will be at 24 East Adelaide-street.

To the Editor of The Electrical Re-

view:
There have recently been some interesting developments in the telephone situation at Baltimore, Md. The Maryland Telephone and Telegram Company began opposition to the Chesapeake and Annapolis Telephone and Telegram Company.

peake and Potomac Telephone Company a few years ago, and now has nearly 7000 stations in Baltimore. To obtain a franchise the company promised a good service at low rates, and agreed with the city to charge not exceeding \$48 a year for business ser-

vice and \$36 a year for residence service. This agreement was made part of the franchise.

Mr. Edward H. Bouton, president of the company, now announces that \$48 a year in a city the size of Baltimore

is not a paying rate, and asks for an amendment to their franchise, enabling them to adopt the toll system—or a charge on each call from the subscribers' telephones. He states that the company has spent over \$2,000,000 on its Baltimore plant, which gives an

average cost per station of about \$300. This figure does not include subway ducts, which are rented from the city. The operating expenses of the system, while not given in figures, are stated by Mr. Bouton to be more than twice

as high as in the company's exchanges in smaller towns.

Ladies' Tailored Shirt Waists

abolish his cheaper rates. In either case he has the public to reckon with, as to obtain the right by ordinance to raise rates is one thing, while to get the public to accept an increase without angry protest is quite another.

The experience of the Maryland Company is about what has been forecast by many observers, both in and out of independent ranks, as the inevitable result of attempting to operate a telephone system in a large city at flat rates, suitable only for a small place.

The outcome of the Baltimore situation will be watched with interest by all telephone men, and especially by those interested in telephone securities.

M. W. H.

Everything

We manufacture everything in trunks, valises, etc.—also we have one of the best

Commencing Saturday, June 7, and until October 26 1902 the Grand

Canvas Covered Trunks, bound with steel, hardwood slats, A1 brass locks, strong bolt, corner rollers, deep, strong and elegant.

returns Saturday and Sunday, valid for return Monday following date of issue. Small booklet showing fares and points to which they apply on application to the Grand Trunk Railway ticket agents. Offices northwest corner King and Yonge streets and Union Station.

the port of departure of the fleet. The scheme contemplates a line of steamers running to China, Japan and Australia, from Vancouver, B.C., Canada, and Australasia is expected to join the line.

paying the subsidies. The draft of the scheme involves the home government guaranteeing a small interest on the capital involved. This would have to be ratified by the House of Commons, "where," says The Westminster Gazette, "it will probably meet with

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 (Cor. Agnes St.)
PIANO SATISFACTION
 Comes with the purchase of a CHICKERING.

...wa, June 5.—At the Anglican synod, this morning, Rev. Henry Pittson said that many who belonged to the Presbyterian Church were not Christians. The same was true of the Methodist Church.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S
CATARRH CURE 25c.

is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. It heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase

Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo. Immigrants came in during May.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor creases and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. The left edge of the page is bound, showing the stitching and the inner cover material. The overall tone is a warm, off-white or light beige.