

may, therefore, be useful to set forth two broad conclusions about the ultimate "union of the nations," which are concurrently accepted in thinking circles here. It is notable that these are both implicit in one remarkable sentence in the article to which allusion has already been made. The writer believes that, "Canada's contribution to history and to civilization is to be that she shall consciously declare her desire to be merely one of a 'Union of Nations' who are all prepared to be limited, not merely by the physical power of neighbours, but by a self imposed legal and contractual bond."

The first conclusion is that, whatever the ultimate organ of the Empire may be, it will have nothing whatever to do with the internal affairs either of the United Kingdom or of the Dominions. It will be a body developed or created *ad hoc*, for the sole purpose of discharging those functions, and fostering those interests, which are the concern, not of one part of the Empire alone, but which are common to all. There is no question of Canadian representatives in the present parliament at Westminster. Whatever body they sit in will have nothing to do with the local affairs of the United Kingdom any more than they have to do with the local affairs of South Africa or Australia. Foreign policy, defence, and dependencies will be their business, and little else. That is the fundamental basis on which a "Union of the Nations" must be built.

The second conclusion is not less important. Whatever proposals are made for a true imperial union must come from the Dominions, not from the United Kingdom. The lesson of the loss of America, the constant protests in years gone by against Downing Street control, make it certain that no proposal involving sacrifice on the part of the Dominions will ever again emanate from this country. Britain has sustained the Empire for two centuries, she will continue to sustain it for many years to come, but the first proposal, that the Dominions should claim their share of the privilege as well as the burden of their common heritage, must come from them.