

Re: Empire Unit and Empire Over All

Mr. Bennett's Empire ideal found more than one expression in his speeches in London. The opening words of his address on October 8th would indicate that despite what was to be said in Canada or at the Conference on 'Canada First', 'Empire over all' was what he really had in mind as an ultimate objective. He said:

"Before offering to this Conference the plan which once effective will, in my opinion, make for greater prosperity in all parts of the empire, I shall briefly state the fiscal policy of the Canadian administration of which I am the head."

Then follows a statement of the beliefs of the "Conservative Part of Canada".

Later he said:

"We believe that through the broadening of the home markets of Empire States to Empire products, in preference to the products of foreign countries, every unit of this Empire will benefit."

This he explained means:

"That we should direct the present flow of trade into more permanent empire channels by preferring empire goods to those of other countries. This can be done only in one way, by creating a preference in favour of empire goods.

"We have considered what a scheme of preference will mean to Canada and to the other parts of the Empire, and our conclusion is that we of the Empire State have within our own control the means to advance the interests of each one of us by developing a plan of economic co-operation based on the principle of empire preferences....."