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A BRITISH CONSERVATIVE VIEW.

THE *Morning Post* of London, Eng., a staunch Conservative journal noted for its keen Imperialism, printed on December 10 an editorial of unusual interest to Canada and all the Overseas Dominions. The cabled copy of this editorial reads:

"It would no doubt be invidious to compare the share of the crown colonies with the share of the Dominions in the common task, but this much may at least be said. What has been done and is being done best is the result of the voluntary, spontaneous effort inspired by the local genius and the spirit of the particular country concerned and not that imposed upon it by Whitehall.

"In Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the raising, equipping and despatching of their contingents was in each case a local work conceived on a generous scale, and handsomely carried out. These contingents will be found to justify the local efforts of the Dominions to create their own military forces.

"Even where the central authority and the Dominions were in conflict it is the Dominion's judgment that is proving right.

"Thus Australia insisted, against a great deal of opposition at this end, and on having her own navy and this Australian navy, when war broke out, was found to be the right thing in the right place. If Australia had developed this independent policy somewhat earlier we might not have been under the necessity of applying for the good offices of our loyal and obliging ally in the east (Japan)".

The *Post* concludes with the declaration: "These things point also to the great truth that if this Empire is spared under Providence to continue its development that development will be upon lines of freedom and co-operation not upon lines of centralization and subordination."

MORE RUMORS OF ELECTION.

TALK of an election in the near future was revived, not only in Ottawa but in many parts of the Dominion, during the closing days of November. Rumors of the desires and intentions of certain members of the Government were heard in such a way as to make it quite believable that dissolution was not far off, and daily reports of the activities of Government organizers in all parts of the country lent colour to the circumstantial stories heard in all quarters. A glance at the "Diary of the Month" in this issue will show that party conventions and nominations have been plentiful, and it may be noted that the diary contains only the record of the more important meetings. Dozens of smaller meetings in practically every province of the Dominion were reported in the daily press, among the most notable of which was a series of party gatherings in the western provinces at which Hon. Arthur Meighen, Solicitor General, was usually the chief speaker.

General denials of any knowledge on the subject have been given to the press by any of the Ministers interviewed. Sir Robert Borden was reported in the *Toronto World* of December 5, as stating that "the Government had no information on the subject beyond what they saw in the press", and answering a direct question as to a session of parliament by saying that there would be a session but that the date had not yet been settled. This statement by the Premier has apparently been generally accepted as indicating that there will be no election, at least until after a session, and the *Toronto World* has followed it with an editorial statement that Parliament will meet as usual in January.

HON. WILLIAM TEMPLEMAN.

HON. William Templeman, former Minister of Mines in the Liberal administration, died at his home in Victoria, B. C. on November 15, after a comparatively short illness. In the passing of Hon. Mr. Templeman, Canadian Liberalism lost one of its staunchest fighting men, and Victoria and British Columbia one of the most public spirited of citizens, one who had done yeoman service in the upbuilding of the Pacific province.

The late Mr. Templeman was a native of Ontario, having been born at Pakenham, September 28, 1844. In 1884 he went to Victoria and since that year had been connected with *The Victoria Times*. As editor and proprietor of this paper and in his many other public activities, he has left his mark not only on the province of his adoption but on the whole of Canada. An unsuccessful candidate in the general elections of 1896, he was called to the senate in 1897 and in 1902 he entered the cabinet of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, without portfolio. In 1906 he was created Minister of Inland Revenue, and in May, 1907 was made Minister of Mines on the creation of that department. He resigned from Senate in 1906 and was elected to the House of Commons for Victoria. In 1908 he was elected by acclamation for Comox-Atlin, but was among the defeated in the general election of 1911.