

have agreed upon a constitution for the proposed new federation. The constitution as drafted will now be submitted to the people of the various colonies for approval, and as soon as three of the colonies accept it, a bill will be sent to England for the assent of the Imperial Parliament. The constitution adopted is substantially as follows: The federation shall be known as the Commonwealth of Australia, and the colonies called States. The Legislature is to consist of a Senate and House of Representatives to be called Parliament. The Governor-General will be appointed by the Queen. The Parliaments are to be held as appointed by the Governor, but there is to be a session of Parliament at least once every year. The Senate is to be composed of eight members of each State, chosen by the House of Parliament of each State. Senators will be chosen for six years, one half of the members to retire every three years. The House of Representatives is to be chosen by the people of the several States, the life of the House being three years. The powers of Parliament as to the making of laws include the regulation of coinage, trade and commerce, and are in general the same as delegated to Congress by the United States. Appropriation or taxation bills are to be sent down by message from the Governor. The exclusive power of the Commonwealth is to be vested in the Queen and exercised by the Governor-General. The latter is to be advised by a ministry, whose number is not to exceed seven. The Supreme Court is to consist of a chief justice and not less than four justices, who are to hold office during good behavior. As soon as a uniform tariff has been imposed, intercolonial free trade is to prevail between all Colonies. The revenue collected is to be applied in defraying the expenses of the Federal Government, after which Parliament is to decide the manner in which the surplus is to be divided. The States are to retain all powers which they at present possess, with the exception of those expressly delegated to the Federal Parliament.

A NEW COMBINE.—The Anglo British Columbian Packing Company is the title of an association, recently organized in London, with a capital of £200,000. The purpose of the association is to operate the more important salmon canneries on the Fraser and Skeena rivers, the amalgamation of which is due to the efforts of J. Bell Irving of Annan, N.B. The capital stock is divided into 20,000 shares at £10 each,—10,000 preference and 10,000 ordinary shares. The preference shares will be entitled to