

Council must be arranged for in the near future. The Conference summoned two years ago was of great service, and it may be repeated with advantage. It would, however, be well not to repeat it too often. Perhaps once in every three or four years it might be arranged that such a Conference should take place, and that questions and desires which had in the meantime become prominent should be talked over. There is but little doubt that the range of items on which we at present in Great Britain levy some slight duty could be extended to the advantage of our colonies. Articles of common use and manufacture do not rise in price under a small duty. It is the more elaborate articles, requiring costly machinery for their make and transport for a distance before they are consumed, that are raised in price by a tariff. It may be possible for the Labour Unions in the several countries to name those common articles which could be supplied within the Empire, and on which we need not be dependent on the foreigner. New South Wales might join Britain in this, but it is to be remembered that foreign retaliation in the exclusion of goods must also be borne in mind, and any list of articles asked for as dutiable should be considered with the greatest care, and conjointly by the delegates appointed to their Conferences. Let us back to the utmost of our power the desires they may express, believing that any little sacrifice will be repaid a hundred-fold in the continued close alliance of our strong brothers across the sea.

LORNE.

*January, 1890.*