

TRADE AFTER THE WAR

THE PRESIDENT (The Rt. Hon. Earl Grey, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.): When I came into the Entrance Hall this afternoon I met so many well-known Canadian faces whose acquaintance I made at Ottawa, that I really thought I was back again in Canada and attending a Canada Club Luncheon, which the Royal Colonial Institute is endeavouring by its example to reproduce in this country. There is no more patriotic organisation than that of the Canada Club Luncheon. Its characteristics are a cheap luncheon quickly served, followed by an address from a National, Imperial, or Humanitarian standpoint, with nothing of a partisan or sectarian character about it. The Institute is highly honoured in having this opportunity of showing its great appreciation of the eminent services rendered to the Empire by Sir George Foster. At a farewell dinner the other day to Mr. Hughes, Lord Northcliffe described our guest as the foremost orator of the Empire, and those of you who were fortunate enough to be present on the last occasion when the Institute had the honour of entertaining Sir George, which was in November, 1912, will entirely endorse Lord Northcliffe's opinion. Indeed, we were all deeply grateful to him for the speech he made on that occasion, for the objects for which the Institute stands—namely, the unity of the Empire and the well-being of the British race—were never more inspiringly or eloquently set forth. Many of us stay-at-home Englishmen feel the greater confidence in the future of the Empire from a knowledge of the fact that the statesmen who represent the virility of our kinsmen beyond the seas, will sit in council with our statesmen at home when the time comes for discussing the terms of Peace. I desire to express the hope that through Sir George Foster's personal