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Nations; for each of them had to give up some of its sovereignty to form the Union) all bound together in one perpetual alliance for weal or woe, for peace or war, for foreign relations, for interstate trade and commerce arrangements and with one supreme elected governing and legislative and executive body over them all for certain purposes; and with certain powers as to local affairs left in the various States. But where was there anything of that in the so-called Commonwealth of British Nations? There was none of it. The name was a delusion, thrust upon us by politicians and newspaper editors in various parts of the Empire to hide, from the common people, the facts as to what was happening.

How was it accomplished? It was accomplished very insidiously. I will give you one example of this insidiousness. It is set forth in the following paragraphs:-

Some years ago a booklet under the title of "The New Era in Canada" was being given wide circulation throughout the Dominion. It was a collection of essays or articles by some fifteen individuals upon subjects of public interest. Amongst the articles was one contributed by Mr. J. W. Dafoe, the Managing Editor of the Free Press of this City, dealing with the future of Canada in the British Empire. He sets forth his idea of that future in the following, amongst other statements:-

"Canada, a nation with full sovereign powers, to be linked in a perpetual alliance with the other British Nations, on terms of equality, under a common Crown, with a common white citizenship".

What he had in mind by "a common white citizenship" I can not understand.

There, in the above quotation, you have the idea of a Commonwealth of British Nations as suggested by these politicians and editors — the only idea of that Commonwealth of British Nations ever suggested by them. Yet, when the above statement is examined, its ignorance is only exceeded by its insidiousness. As to its ignorance: Did Mr. Dafoe not know that it is impossible to have a perpetual alliance of nations with full sovereign powers? Did he not know that no sovereign state is bound by any of its agreements, contracts, or treaties, any longer than that state chooses to remain bound, or can be compelled by superior force to remain bound? How then could these Sovereign states all be linked together in a perpetual alliance under a Common Crown, or in any other way? If Mr. Dafoe was not aware of these facts, then he was very ignorant indeed. If he did know the facts, then his statements become part of the insidiousness above referred to. I am quite sure that Mr. Dafoe knew the facts and knew that what he was proposing was effectually the disintegration and dismemberment of the British Empire. Yet, he talks about the future of Canada in that Empire. He says: "We shall all remain linked together in a perpetual alliance under a common Crown". This was the sugar-coating of the pill of the dismemberment of the British Empire, and the diminishing of its prestige and power, which he was proposing. By the prestige and power of the British Empire we must mean and do mean the prestige and power of the British people wherever they may be.

The "perpetual alliance" of sovereign powers was simply visionary and a thing impossible of accomplishment.

What about the common Crown? This was only another part of the insidiousness of the campaign. What common Crown had Mr. Dafoe in mind? It would not be the King personally; for we all know that the King exercises no legislative, executive or judicial power whatever. We all know that the rights, powers and prerogatives of the Crown have long ago been transferred to the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, composed of the House of Commons and the House of Lords and the King, and with the elected House of Commons as the real governing legislative and administra-