

to remove the constitutional control of the self-governing Colonies from the Colonial Office, and to set up in this Secretariat the nucleus of a real Imperial Council in which the Prime Minister of England should preside as a member of the Imperial Conference, was a bold attempt at making history.

SUMMARY OF THE POLITICAL RESULTS.

Various other attempts at constructive Imperialism, proposed by Mr. Deakin, usually with the backing of Dr. Jameson, were successfully opposed by Sir W. Laurier, who, with General Botha, ranked as an opposition to the forward movement.

Of such a character was the proposal of Mr. Deakin that in the absence of the Prime Minister, who was formally constituted President of the future Imperial Conferences, the "senior member" of the Conference, not the Colonial Secretary, should preside. This suggestion, logically linked with the determination to make the Conference and the Secretariat a body purely representative of equal Governments, was withdrawn on the objection of the representative of Canada. So was the Australian resolution, "That it is desirable to establish an Imperial Court of Appeal." Sir W. Laurier's speech upon this resolution makes it evident that Canada looks not to the substitution of an Imperial Court for the present jurisdiction of the Privy Council, but to the elimination of Imperial jurisdiction altogether.*

Summarising the political results of the Conference, we perceive that the following changes in the constitution of the Conference were effected. Known no longer as a Colonial, but as an Imperial Conference, it is to be held not irregularly as heretofore, but at regular intervals of four years. The Prime Minister is to be *ex officio* President, instead of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, however, will be Vice-President, and will, as heretofore, be charged with the arrangements for the Conference. The permanent