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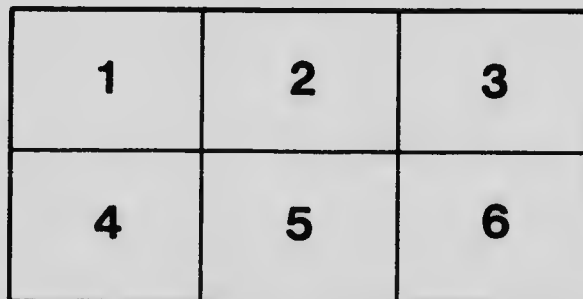
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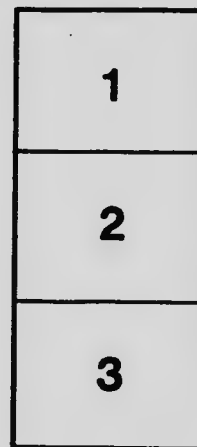
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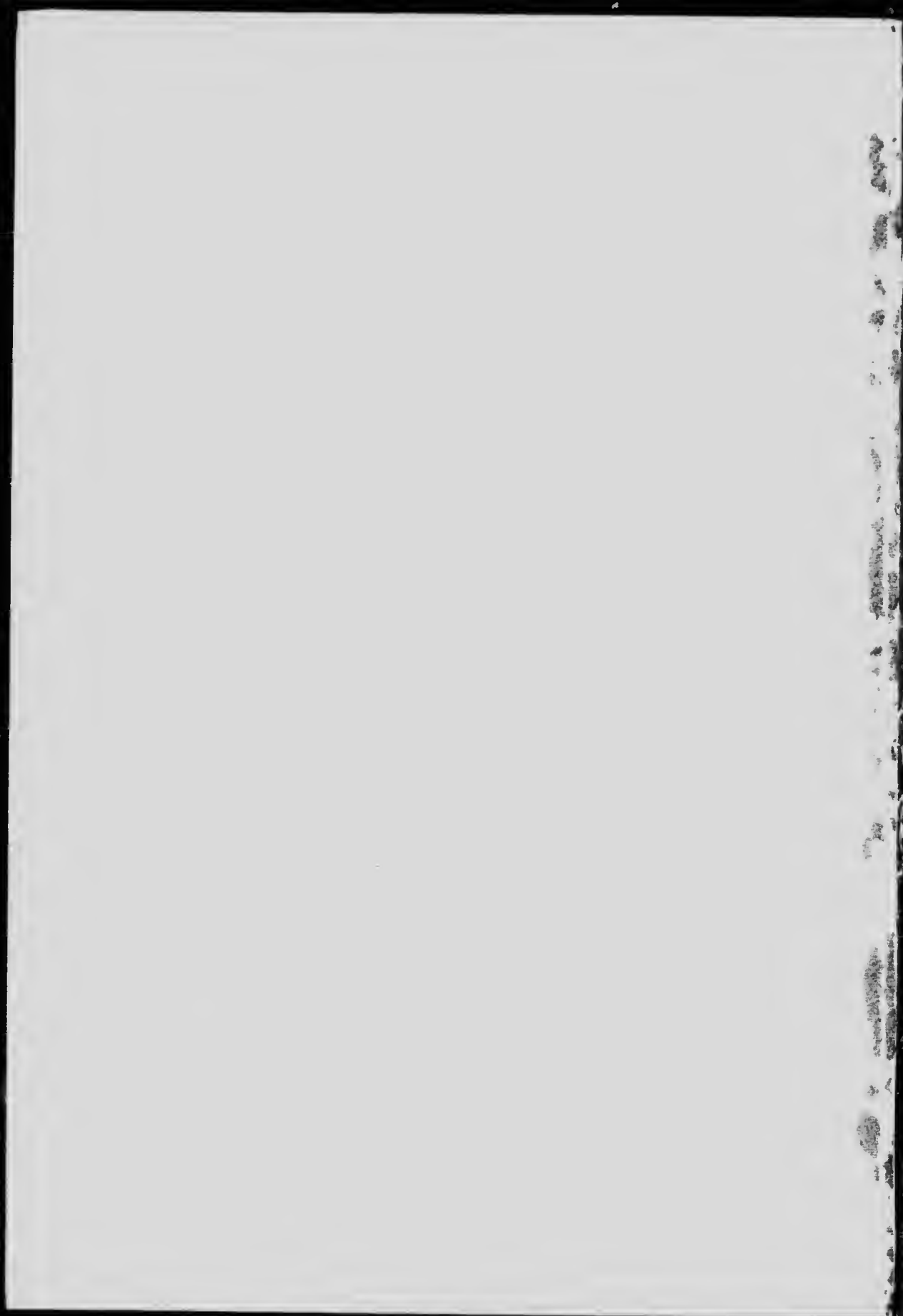
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NOTES



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LIMITED PURVEYORS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

## CLOTHING, TENTS, AWNINGS, BLANKETS AND FOOTWEAR

Supplies and Outfits for Military Use, Tourists, Sportsmen, Contractors, Lumbermen, etc., including

### THE HUBERT-WOODS FIELD HOSPITAL TENT

USED IN  
SOUTH AFRICA  
FOR FIELD  
HOSPITALS

FOR  
SPORTSMEN

FOR  
EXPLORERS

FOR  
PUBLIC WORKS



Recommended  
by  
Lord Kitchener

SPECIAL  
COMFORT  
DEVICE

THE  
LUXURY OF  
CAMPING

NO DAMPNES

#### TENT ARRANGED FOR SUMMER USE

With fly spread for shade and protection from rain. Patented in Canada, Britain, India and other countries.

FOR THE  
LAWN

FOR  
PICNICS

FOR WORK OR  
PLAY

CAN BE MADE  
ALL SIZES



NO FLIES  
OR  
MOSQUITOES

FULL  
VENTILATION

WARM  
IN WINTER

DRY  
IN RAIN

#### TENT-SUMMER ARRANGEMENT

With half of fly turned over, showing ventilation openings, with net covering.

supplied to the Canadian Contingents in South Africa. This tent consists of a greenish-khaki duck, 18 feet by 25, with a white duck fly as above depicted. For winter use the fly is brought close on top of the tent, making a double wall. After trial in South Africa, both summer and winter, Lord Kitchener recommended its use in the British Army.

-Front

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 SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, SULPHURIC ACID.**

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Miners of the celebrated "DOMINION" Steam and Gas Coals from the Phalen and Harbor Seams.

**ANNUAL OUTPUT 3,500,000 TONS.**

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# THE MOLSONS BANK

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1854  
**HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL, CANADA**  
 Capital Authorized, \$1,000,000. Capital Paid Up, \$5,000,000.  
 Reserve Fund, \$2,500,000.  
 James Elliot, General Manager.  
 A. D. Barnford, Chief Inspector and Supt. of Branches.



**BRANCHES:** Alberta: Calgary. British Columbia: Vancouver, Nanaimo, Winnipeg. Ontario: Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Kingston, London, Windsor, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Port Arthur, Sarnia, Windsor, Smith's Falls, St. Marys, St. Thomas, Toronto, Junction, Iroquois, Watkin, Woodstock, Quebec, Arden Vale, Arthursburg, Elginville, Fawcettville, Kew-Forest, Montreal-Jesse Street, Market and Marine Branch, St. Catherine's River Branch, Quebec, Hull, Victoriaville.

**AGENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.**  
 London and Liverpool, Paris Bank, Limited. Ireland, Western and Eastern Bank, Limited. Australia and New Zealand, The Union Bank of Australia, Limited. South Africa, The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited. Collections made in all parts of the Dominion and returns promptly remitted at lowest rates of exchange.

Commercial Letters of Credit and Travelers' Circular Letters issued, available in all parts of the world.

# The Royal Trust Company

109 ST. JAMES STREET,  
 MONTREAL.

## CAPITAL

Subscribed \$1,000,000 Paid up \$600,000  
 Reserve Fund \$300,000

## PRESIDENT

RIGHT HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G.

## VICE-PRESIDENT

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The Royal Trust Company acts as Trustee, Executor, Assignee, etc; manages Estates, invests monies and collects and distributes revenues; gives Bonds in Judicial proceedings; acts as Transfer Agent and Regist. of Shares; manages Sinking Funds; accepts any Financial Agency, etc., etc.

The Company will act as Agent or Attorney for Trustees and Executors already acting, and is authorized to GUARANTEE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST of investments made by it.

H. ROBERTSON, Manager

# THE RUSSELL HOUSE

OTTAWA

The Leading Hotel  
 of the  
 Capital of Canada



# THE VICTORIA HOTEL

AYLMER, P.Q.

A Charming  
 Summer Resort on  
 Lake Deschampe

# HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

INCORPORATED 1670

The Company offers for sale

Farming and Grazing Lands in MANITOBA and the  
 NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

Easy Terms of Payment and without any conditions of settlement or cultivation duties.

TOWN LOTS FOR SALE.

Full information will be given at the offices of the Company in Canada or at the London Office, 1 Lime Street, E.C.

The Company has General Stores at WINNIPEG, VANCOUVER, VICTORIA, And Other Places.

# THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

KEEPER OF THE GATES OF CANADA.  
THE MOTHER OF PROVINCES. . . . .

222,000,000 Acres.

Population 1,648,898.

Disposable Surveyed Crown Lands, 7,000,000 Acres.

**The Mother Renews  
Her Youth.**

**She Invites  
Colonists,  
Investors,  
Tourists,  
Sportsmen.**

**She Offers Fertile  
Lands.**

**Montreal Exports  
More Wheat  
Than  
New York.**

## QUEBEC

Is the first settled Province; the largest of the Older Provinces, and perhaps the richest in Natural Resources.

Situated on both sides of the St. Lawrence River and Gulf, she combines the characteristics of Inland Canada with a great Maritime Trade.

The older farming districts have retained their fertility during nearly three centuries of cultivation. New and vast fertile districts are now being developed, by railways lately completed, while the Grand Trunk Pacific—the new Transcontinental Route—will pass directly through them.

Quebec equals or excels some other more advertised sisters in WHEAT LANDS—GRAZING—DAIRYING—MANUFACTURES—MINES—FISHERIES—RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION—TIMBER—PULPWOOD—DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY from Water Power and its uses.

**She Aims to Lead  
the Family.**

**She Possesses all  
Precious Metals.**

**All Non-Metallic  
Economic Minerals.**

**Unrivelled Spruce,  
Cedar and Pine  
Forests.**

**Productive Fisher-  
ies (\$2,174,000 in  
1901.**

**Great Industries  
Vast Water Powers.**

For full information address HON. S. N. PARENT, Minister of Lands, Mines and Fisheries, QUEBEC.

# EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK

HEAD OFFICE:

Sherbrooke, P. Q.

W. FARWELL, President.

JAMES MACKINNON, Gen. Mgr.

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT AND ESTABLISHED IN 1859.

Transacts a General Banking Business throughout the Dominion of Canada.  
Special Savings Departments at each Office.

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED, . . . \$3,000,000.

CAPITAL PAID UP, . . . 2,337,750.

RESERVE FUND . . . 1,318,442.

### BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION:

Bedford, Que.	Montreal, Que., St. James St.	St. Hyacinthe, Que.
Cowansville, "	do " St. Lawrence St.	St. John's, "
Coaticook, "	do " St. Catherine St.	St. Joseph, Beauce, Que.
Danville, "	Magog, "	Sherbrooke, "
Farnham, "	Ormetown, "	Sutton, "
Grand Forks, B. C.	Phoenix, B. C.	West Shefford, "
Granby, Que.	Rock Island, Que.	Windsor Mills, "
Huntingdon, "	Richmond, "	Waterloo, "
Iberville, "	St. Gabriel de Brandon, Que.	Winnipeg, Manitoba.

### AGENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

IN CANADA.—Bank of Montreal and Branches. Canadian Bank of Commerce. Molsons Bank.  
IN UNITED STATES.—New York, National Park Bank; Corn Exchange Bank; Knauth Nachod & Kuhne and Agents. Boston, National Exchange Bank. Portland, Me., First National Bank. Albany, N. Y., New York State National Bank. Spokane, Washington, Exchange National Bank.  
IN GREAT BRITAIN.—National Bank of Scotland, Credit Lyonnais.  
IN FRANCE AND OTHER EUROPEAN POINTS.—Credit Lyonnais.  
IN CHINA & JAPAN.—Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Collections promptly made at lowest rates throughout the Dominion or in any part of the world. Deposits made through our Correspondents and remittances for residents in the Dominion will receive prompt attention. Drafts issued and payments made on all foreign points. Safe and reliable agents for the transaction of any business and commissions, throughout the Dominion or elsewhere.



## THE OLIVER TYPEWRITER

### The Standard Visible Writer

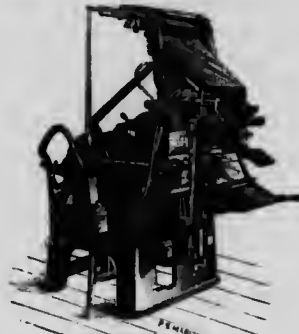
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# The Sovereign Bank of Canada

Incorporated by Act of Dominion of Canada 1901

Capital Authorized	- - -	\$2,000,000.00
Capital Subscribed and Fully Paid	- - -	\$1,300,000.00
Reserve Fund	- - -	\$325,000.00

### BRANCHES :

Amherstburg	Mount Albert
Aylmer, Ont.	Newmarket
Clinton	Ottawa
Crediton	Perth
Dashwood	St. Catharines
Exeter	Springfield
Harrow	Stirling
Havelock	Stouffville
Hensall	Sutton, P. Q.
Markham	Toronto
Marmora	Unionville
Milverton	Waterloo, P. Q.
Montreal	Zurich
Montreal, West End	

### BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

#### IN GREAT BRITAIN.

J. S. Morgan & Co. .... London.  
The London Joint Stock Bank Limited ..... "

#### IN FRANCE.

Morgan, Harjes & Co. .... Paris.

#### IN GERMANY.

Dresdner Bank ..... (Hamburg, Berlin, Etc.)

#### IN THE UNITED STATES.

J. P. Morgan & Co. .... New York.  
The Standard Trust Company ..... "  
The National Bank of Commerce ..... "  
Commercial National Bank ..... Chicago.  
Atlantic National Bank ..... Boston.  
The Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank ..... Philadelphia  
State Savings Bank ..... Detroit.

The Sovereign Bank of Canada has exceptional facilities for procuring and handling investments in Canada and the United States.  
Commercial Letters of Credit issued; Sterling Foreign and American Exchanges bought and sold; Collections promptly made;  
Accounts of Manufacturers and Mercantile Firms collected.  
Deposit Receipts issued. Interest paid on Deposits in Saving Department.

Head Office: TORONTO.

Executive Offices: MONTREAL.

D. M. STEWART, General Manager, Montreal.

ESTABLISHED IN 1878.

**J. M. FORTIER, LIMITED,**

Dealers in  
Imported and  
Domestic Leaf  
Tobacco, also  
Cigar Manufac-  
turers' Supplies

Manufacturers and Exporters of  
**Cigars, Cigarettes  
and Cut Tobacco**

**OFFICES:**

1980-1982  
Notre Dame St.

**FACTORIES AND  
WAREHOUSES:**

151 to 161  
St. Maurice St.

**MONTREAL, :: :: CANADA**

**CHAMBERLAIN CIGAR**  
OUR LEADER

**COCKSHUTT PLOWS**

ARE SOLD IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD



ALL SORTS  
OF  
PLOWS  
FOR  
ALL SORTS  
OF  
SOIL.



THEY ARE  
NOTED  
FOR THEIR  
HIGH  
GRADE  
QUALITIES

Made In Canada in the largest and most modern Plow Factory in the Empire.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE.

**COCKSHUTT PLOW CO., Ltd., BRANTFORD, Can.**



# PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

## THE PREMIER PROVINCE.

LIES BETWEEN THE GREAT LAKES AND HUDSON'S BAY

Area, 150,125,000 Acres.  
Cheese Output, \$13,023,000.  
Vineyards, 14,000 Acres.  
Railways, 7,139 Miles.

Population (1901), 2,182,000.  
Farm Property (1901), \$1,001,323,298.  
Apples, 48,183,000 Bushels.  
Lake Fisheries, \$1,428,000.

**RESOURCES INCLUDE:** Timber, Pine and Spruce in abundance; Cabinet Woods, Black Walnut, Chestnut, Etc.; All kinds of Metals and Economic Minerals, such as Gold, Silver, Copper, Nickel, Iron and Mica; Fisheries; All Farm and Dairy Products and Fruits; Smelting; Foundries; Lumbering; Pulp, Paper, Cement, Textile and General Manufactures.

Free Homesteads for Settlers.

Lands, Forests, Mines and Industries for the Investor.

Game and Fish for the Sportsman.

The Home of Enterprise and Education.

Grand Trunk Pacific Ry. opens New Regions from East to West.

The older settlements are in the region bounded by the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River.

"New Ontario" stretches from the outskirts of these to Hudson's Bay and Manitoba.

Older Ontario is a settled country with high modern civilization in one of the finest climates on earth.

The newer district is less developed and produces as yet chiefly timber and minerals. It is being opened rapidly by railways which will soon reach all parts of it including a new tract of thousands of square miles of fertile wooded land.

All northern parts of the province abound in timber, minerals and game.

Freshlands for Tenant Farmers.

Schools and Colleges for all.

Great Convenient Water Powers.

Scenery for the Tourist.

Development taking New Force

Transcontinental Railway runs from North to South.

For Reports, Land Laws and detailed information, ADDRESS

HON. E. J. DAVIS,

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Toronto, Ont.

## THE BANK OF TORONTO

Incorporated 1855.

HEAD OFFICE, - TORONTO, CANADA

Paid Up Capital, - \$2,850,000.00  
Reserve Fund, - 2,950,000.00  
Total Assets Over - 24,000,000.00

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GEORGE GOODERHAM, President. W. H. BEATTY, Vice-President.  
HENRY CAWTHRA, W. G. GOODERHAM, CHARLES STUART,  
ROBERT REFORM, JOHN WALDIE, JOHN J. LONG,  
CHAS. S. HYMAN, M.P.

DUNCAN COULSON, General Manager  
JOSEPH HENDERSON, Assistant General Manager  
THOS. A. BIRD, Inspector

This Bank Offers splendid facilities for the collection of Bills of Exchange drawn on points throughout Canada.  
Drafts and Letters of Credit Issued, available in all parts of the world.  
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Special attention given to the accounts of firms in Great Britain having business connections in Canada.

Correspondence Invited.

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THOMAS F. HOW, Manager.

CITY BRANCHES: Board of Trade Building,  
Guy and St. Catherine Sts.  
St. Etienne St., Point St. Charles.

## THE BANK OF OTTAWA

Capital (Authorized) - - - - - \$3,000,000  
Capital (Paid up) - - - - - 2,435,990  
Rent - - - - - 2,256,194

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Henry N. Bate, John Burns Fraser,  
Hon. Geo. Bryson, John Mather,  
Henry H. Egan, Denis Murphy,  
Geo. H. Perley.

### HEAD OFFICE, OTTAWA, ONT.

Geo. Burn, General Manager. D. M. Flinnie, Ottawa Manager.  
L. C. Owen, Inspector.

Forty Branches in Canada.

### AGENTS IN CANADA

Bank of Montreal.

### FOREIGN AGENTS

New York—Agents Bank of Montreal.  
National Bank of Commerce.  
Merchants National Bank.  
Chicago—Bank of Montreal.  
London—Parr's Bank, Limited.  
Boston—National Bank of the Republic.  
Colonial National Bank.  
First National Bank.  
St. Paul—Merchants National Bank.  
France—Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.  
India, China and Japan—Chartered Bank of India, Australia and Japan.



(Established 1817.)

**BANK OF MONTREAL.**

Incorporated by Act of Parliament.

Capital (paid up) - \$13,379 240.00 Reserved Fund, - 9,000,000.00 Undivided Profits, - 724,807.75

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**—Rt. Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., *President*. Hon. G. A. Drummond, *Vice-President*.  
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BELLEVILLE,  
BRANTFORD,  
BROCKVILLE,  
CHATHAM,  
COLLINGWOOD,  
CORNWALL,  
DESERONTO,  
FORT WILLIAM,  
GODERICH,  
QUELPH,  
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**PROV. OF ONTARIO.**

KINGSTON,  
LINDSAY,  
LONDON,  
OTTAWA,  
PARIS,  
PERTH,  
PETERBORO,  
PICTON,  
SARNIA,  
STAMFORD,  
ST. MARYS,  
TORONTO, Yonge St. Br.  
WALLACEBURG.

**PROV. OF QUEBEC.**

MONTREAL,  
" West End Br.  
" Faigueurs St. Br.  
" Point St. Charles.  
QUEBEC.

**LOWER PROVINCES.**

CHATHAM, N.B.  
FREDERICTON, "  
MONCTON, "  
ST. JOHN, "

**LOWER PROVINCES.**

AMHERST, N.S.  
GLACE BAY, "  
HALIFAX, "  
SYDNEY, "  
YARMOUTH, "

**Province of Manitoba  
and Northwest Territories.**

WINNIPEG, Man.  
CALGARY, Alberta  
LETHBRIDGE, Alta.  
RAYMOND, Alta.

Province of Manitoba  
and Northwest Territories  
REGINA, Assiniboia.

Prov. of British Columbia.

GREENWOOD,  
NELSON,  
NEW DENVER,  
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**IN GREAT BRITAIN:**LONDON, BANK OF MONTREAL, 22 Abchurch Lane, E.C.4. ALEXANDER LANG, *Manager*.**IN THE UNITED STATES:**

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**BANKERS IN THE UNITED STATES:**

NEW YORK, THE NATIONAL CITY BANK, THE BANK OF NEW YORK, N.B.A., NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW YORK, WESTERN NATIONAL BANK  
 BOSTON, THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK, J. B. MILES & Co. BUFFALO, THE MARINE BANK, BUFFALO. SAN FRANCISCO, THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN BANK, LTD.  
 Montreal, 30th April, 1903.

**DARDANELLES****A PURE EGYPTIAN  
CIGARETTE****"IT'S SUCCESS TELLS ALL."**

OFFICIAL REPORT  
OF  
THE FIFTH CONGRESS  
OF THE  
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE  
HELD IN  
MONTREAL, CANADA

AUGUST 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st, 1903

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**T**HE FIFTH CONGRESS of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, convened by the London Chamber of Commerce (incorporated) was, by invitation of the Montreal Board of Trade, held in Montreal, Canada, commencing Monday, August 17th, and continuing Tuesday, August 18th, Wednesday, August 19th, Thursday, August 20th, and Friday, August 21st, 1903.

On the evening of Monday, August 17th, a reception was tendered to the delegates by the Montreal Board of Trade in its new Building, one of the finest buildings devoted to commercial purposes on the American continent, the occasion being availed of for its inauguration, which ceremony was performed by the Right Honourable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

On the evening of Thursday, August 20th, the Banquet tendered to the delegates by the Montreal Board of Trade was held in the Windsor Hotel, and was the most representative gathering of a similar kind ever seen in Canada.

The meetings of the Congress were held in the Windsor Hall, and were presided over by The Right Honourable Lord Brassey, K.C.B., president of the Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

The Right Honourable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., Honorary President of the Congress, delivered the opening address.

Appended is a full report of the proceedings of the Fifth Congress.

### Donatory President

**THE RIGHT HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G.**  
(High Commissioner for Canada).

### President

**THE RIGHT HON. LORD BRASSEY, K.C.B.**  
(President of the London Chamber of Commerce).

### Honorary Vice-Presidents

#### IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

- The Right Hon. The Earl of Aberdeen, G.C.M.G., LL.D., D.C.L., M.A.** (Governor-General of Canada, 1893-95).
- John Anderson, Esq., C.M.G.** (Secretary to Conference between Mr. Chamberlain and the Colonial Premiers, 1897).
- His Grace the Duke of Argyll, K.T., G.C.M.G., V.D., LL.D.** (Governor-General of Canada, 1878-83).
- The Right Hon. Lord Avebury, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.** (President of the Second Congress, 1892).
- Sir Stuart C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.** (Vice-President of the India Council).
- T. F. Blackwell, Esq.** (Chairman of the Organising Committee).
- The Right Hon. Lord Brassey, K.C.B., D.C.L., M.A.** (Governor of Victoria, 1895-1900); President of the London Chamber of Commerce).
- Sir Henry Ernest Gascoyne Bulwer, G.C.M.G., B.A.** (High Commissioner for Cyprus, 1885-92).
- Sydney Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P.** (Parliamentary Under-Secretary Colonial Office, 1892-95).
- The Right Hon. The Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., B.A., F.R.S.** (Governor of New South Wales, 1886-90).
- J. G. Colmer, Esq., C.M.G.**
- The Hon. Henry Copeland** (Agent General for New South Wales).
- Sir Charles H. T. Crosthwaite, K.C.S.I.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Derby, K.G., G.C.B.** (Governor-General of Canada, 1888-93).
- Sir G. William Des Voeux, G.C.M.G.** (Governor of Hong Kong, 1887-91).
- His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., D.C.L., LL.D., M.A.** (President of the British Empire League).
- The Hon. Alfred Dobson** (Agent-General for Tasmania).
- Sir John Edge, K.C., B.A., LL.B.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., LL.D., M.A.** (Viceroy and Governor-General of India, 1894-99).
- Sir Denis Fitzpatrick, K.C.S.I., LL.D.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. Sir Henry H. Fowler, G.C.S.I., M.P.** (late Secretary of State for India).
- Thos. E. Fuller, Esq.** (Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope).
- The Hon. Alban G. H. Gibbs, M.A., F.R.S.** (City of London).
- General Sir J. J. H. Gordon, K.C.B.** (Member of the India Council).
- H. Aillerdale Grainger, Esq.** (Agent-General for South Australia).
- The Right Hon. Lord Haldhurton, G.C.B.** (late Permanent Under-Secretary for War).
- The Right Hon. Viscount Hampden, G.C.M.G.** (Governor of New South Wales, 1896-99).
- The Right Hon. Lord Harris, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., B.A.** (Governor of Bombay, 1890-95).
- The Right Hon. Sir Robert G. W. Herbert, G.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D.** (Permanent Under-Secretary, Colonial Office, 1871-92; and Acting Agent-General for Tasmania, 1893-96).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G.** (Governor-General of Commonwealth of Australia, 1900-1902).
- Sir Philip Hutchins, K.C.S.I.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.** (Governor of New South Wales, 1890-93; represented H.M. Government at Ottawa, 1894).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Kintore, G.C.M.G., LL.D., M.A.** (Governor of South Australia, 1889-95).
- The Right Hon. Viscount Knutsford, G.C.M.G., B.A.** (President of the Colonial Conference, 1887; and Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1888-92).
- H. C. M. Lambert, Esq.** (Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Emigrants' Information Office).
- The Right Hon. Lord Lamington, G.C.M.G., B.A.** (Governor of Queensland, 1896-1902).
- The Hon. Henry Bruce Lefroy** (Agent-General for Western Australia).
- Francis C. Le Marchant, Esq.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. The Lord Mayor of London.**
- Sir Alfred Comyns Lyall, G.C.B., G.C.I.E., D.C.L., LL.D.** (Member of the India Council).
- Sir James L. Mackay, K.C.I.E.** (Member of the India Council).
- Sir Clemens R. Markham, K.C.B., F.R.S., F.S.A.** (President of the Royal Geographical Society).
- The Master of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers.**
- The Master of the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors.**
- General Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E.** (Governor of Queensland, 1894-95; Agent-General for Queensland, 1896-98; Member of the Royal Commission to Enquire into the Condition of West Indies, 1896).
- Captain Sir Montagu Frederick Ormanney, K.C.M.G.** (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies).
- The Right Hon. The Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G.** (Parliamentary Secretary Colonial Office).
- Sir Walter Peace, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.** (Agent-General for Natal).
- Sir James Braithwaite Pelle, K.C.S.I., M.A.** (Member of the India Council).
- The Right Hon. Lord Pirbright, F.R.S.** (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1888-92).
- The Right Hon. Lord Reay, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., LL.D.**
- The Hon. W. Pember Reeves** (Agent-General for New Zealand).
- The Most Noble The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I., C.I.E., V.D., D.C.L.** (Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1892-95).
- The Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, M.P.** (Chancellor of the Exchequer).
- Sir Albert K. Rolitt, D.C.L., LL.D., M.P.** (President of the Third Congress, 1896).
- Sir Cecil Clement Smith, G.C.M.G.** (Consul-General and High Commissioner for Borneo and Sarawak, 1889-93).
- The Right Hon. Lord Stanmore, G.C.M.G., D.C.L., M.A., F.R.G.S.** (Governor of Ceylon, 1883-90).
- Sir Thomas Sutherland, G.C.M.G., LL.D.** (Chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company).
- Sir W. T. Thistleton-Dyer, K.C.M.G., C.T.E., LL.D., M.A., F.R.S.** (Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew).
- The Hon. Sir Horace Tozer, K.C.M.G.** (Agent-General for Queensland).
- J. Herbert Trilton, Esq.** (President of the First Congress, 1886).
- The Right Hon. Lord Wenlock, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., B.A.** (Governor of Madras, 1891-96).
- Sir Edward Wingfield, K.C.B., M.A.** (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1897-1900).
- Sir Frederick Young, K.C.M.G.** (a Vice-President of the Royal Colonial Institute).

# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

## Chairman

**Mr. T. F. BLACKWELL.**

(A Vice-President of the London Chamber, and Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Congress of 1900.)

## Deputy Chairman

**Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS, D.L., J.P.**

(Vice-President of the London Chamber, and Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Congresses of 1892 and 1896.)

## Members of the Committee

- The Agent-General for Cape of Good Hope.**  
**The Agent-General for Natal.**  
**The Agent-General for New Brunswick.**  
**The Agent-General for New South Wales.**  
**The Agent-General for Queensland.**  
**The Agent-General for South Australia.**  
**The Agent-General for Tasmania.**  
**The Agent-General for Victoria.**  
**The Agent-General for Western Australia.**  
**Mr. Ed. T. Agius, F.S.S.,** representing the interests of Malta.  
**The Right Hon. Lord Avebury, D.C.L., LL.D.**  
**Belfast Chamber of Commerce, The President of**  
**Mr. Archer Baker,** representing the Canadian Pacific Railway.  
**Mr. S. B. Boulton (Burt, Boulton & Heywood, Limited).**  
**British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, The President of**  
**British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, The President of**  
**Mr. Henry Bull (Henry Bull & Co.),** representing the interests of New South Wales.  
**Mr. E. D. Carver (Carver Bros. & Co.),** representing the British Chamber of Commerce in Egypt, Alexandria.  
**Mr. R. W. Chamney (Blythe, Green, Jourdain & Co.),** representing the interests of Mauritius.  
**Mr. Charles Charleton (I. C. Johnson & Co., Limited),** Member of the Council of the London Chamber.  
**Mr. Frederick S. Clarke,** representing the interests of Siam.  
**Mr. N. Cohen (Member of the Council of the London Chamber).**  
**Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G.**  
**Mr. W. Cowie (British North Borneo Company),** representing the interests of British North Borneo.  
**Mr. D. Cruikshank (Begg, Dunlop & Co.),** representing the interests of Madras.  
**Sir Donald Currie, K.C.M.G., M.P. (Donald Currie & Co.),** representing the interests of Cape Colony.  
**Mr. W. C. Dawes,** representing the interests of New Zealand.  
**Mr. F. Dyer (Dyer & Dyer),** representing Cape Colony.  
**Dublin Chamber of Commerce, The President of**  
**Mr. A. Fass,** representing the interests of Natal.  
**Major S. Flood-Page (Member of the Council of the London Chamber).**  
**Glasgow Chamber of Commerce & Manufacturers, The President of**  
**Mr. S. Gillilan (Adamson, Gillilan & Co.),** representing the interests of the Straits Settlements.  
**Mr. E. J. Gillespie (Carbutt & Co., Limited),** Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber.  
**Mr. William Grieco (Bulloch Bros. & Co., Limited),** representing the interests of Burma.  
**Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.A., LL.D., Alderman, M.P. (S. Hanson, Son & Barter),** Vice-President of the London Chamber.  
**Sir W. H. Holland, M.P.,** President, Manchester Chamber of Commerce.  
**Mr. William Keswick, M.P. (Matheson & Co.),** Chairman of the East India and China Trade Section of the London Chamber.  
**Lieut-General John Wimburn Laurie, C.B., D.C.L., M.P. (Chairman of the Canadian Trade Section of the London Chamber).**  
**Sir Neville Lurbeck, K.C.M.G. (West India Committee),** representing the West Indies.  
**Sir James Mackay, K.C.I.E.,** representing the interests of East India and China.  
**Mr. C. McArthur, M.P.,** representing the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.  
**Mr. Robert McCracken (Steel Bros. & Co., Limited),** representing the interests of Burma.  
**Mr. J. E. McDonald (McDonald, Scates & Co.),** representing the interests of Western Australia.  
**Mr. Alex. McFee, ex-President Montreal Board of Trade.**  
**Mr. K. N. McFee, 72 Gracechurch Str., E. C.**  
**Mr. W. McFarlane (Wm. Dunn & Co.),** representing the interests of the Colony.  
**Mr. W. R. Mewburn,** representing the interests of Australia.  
**Mr. W. Garland Soper, B.A., J.P.,** representing South Africa.  
**Mr. Magnus Mowat (Ritchie, Stewart & Co.),** representing the interests of Bombay.  
**Mr. R. L. Newman (Newman, Hunt & Co.)** representing the interests of Newfoundland.  
**Mr. James Paterson (New Zealand Loan & Mercantile Agency Company, Limited),** representing the interests of New Zealand.  
**Mr. A. D. Provand,** representing the interests of East India and China.  
**Mr. J. Innes Rogers, Vice-President of the London Chamber.**  
**Sir Albert K. Roitt, D.C.L., LL.D., M.P. (Bailey & Leatham, Limited, Vice-President of the Chamber and President of the Third Congress.**  
**Mr. J. Ross (Ross & Glendinning),** representing the interests of New Zealand.  
**Mr. Albert G. Sandeman (Geo. Sandeman, Sons & Co.),** President of the Fourth Congress.  
**The Right Hon. Lord Stanmore, G.C.M.G., D.C.L., M.A.,** Chairman of the Ceylon Association in London, representing the interests of Ceylon.  
**The Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G. (High Commissioner for Canada),** representing the interests of the Dominion of Canada.  
**Mr. F. Swanzy (F. & A. Swanzy),** Chairman of the West African Trade Section of the London Chamber.  
**The Right Hon. Sir George Taubman-Goldie, G.C.M.G.,** representing the interests of West Africa.  
**Mr. W. Thompson (W. Thompson & Co.),** representing the interests of Western Australia.  
**Sir W. P. Treloar, Alderman.**  
**Mr. J. Herbert Tritton (B. & C. & Co.),** Vice-President of the London Chamber, and President of the First Congress, 1886.  
**Mr. G. A. Walker.**  
**Mr. F. S. Watts (Watts, Watts & Co.),** representing the British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey, Constantinople.  
**Mr. F. Whenny, Treasurer of the London Chamber of Commerce.**  
**Mr. Robert Whyte (Moffatt, Whyte & Co.),** representing the interests of Victoria.  
**Sir Chas. Rivers Wilson, G.C.M.G., C.B. (Chairman of the Grand Trunk Railway).**

# CANADIAN COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE

---

## Chairman

A. J. HODGSON, Esq.

President of the Montreal Board of Trade.

## Representing the Dominion Government

HONOURABLE RAYMOND PREFONTAINE, K.C.

Dominion Minister of Marine and Fisheries

HONOURABLE ROBERT MACKAY, Senator.

ROBERT BICKERDIKE, Esq., M.P.

## Representing the Montreal Board of Trade

GEORGE E. DRUMMOND, Esq.

WILLIAM I. GEAR, Esq.

JAMES DAVIDSON, Esq.

HERBERT B. AMES, Esq.

ALEX. McFEE, Esq.

## Representing La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal

D. MASSON, Esq.

HONOURABLE ALPHONSE DESJARDINS

H. LAPORTE, Esq.

## Secretary

GEO. HADRILL, Esq.

# LIST OF COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ACCEPTED THE INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN THE CONGRESS, SHOWING THE DELEGATES APPOINTED.

## EUROPE

### UNITED KINGDOM

**ABERDEEN** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
James Spence, Esq., J.P. (Vice-President).  
John, Rae, Esq., J.P.

**ASHFORD** Chamber of Commerce:  
Lewis Percy Headley.

**BARNLEY AND DISTRICT** Chamber of Commerce:  
Joseph Walton, Esq., M.P.  
William Bennett Wilson, Esq.

**BARNWELL-IN-FURNESS** Chamber of Commerce and Exchange:  
Major William Gradwell.  
John Peter Smith, Esq.  
George Hunter Young, Esq.  
Henry Fox Wright, Esq.  
George Samuel Heath, Esq.

**BATLEY** Chamber of Commerce:  
Fredk. W. Akroyd, Esq. (President).  
John W. Blackburn, Esq.  
Robert Brearley, Esq.

**BELFAST** Incorporated Journal of Commerce:  
Walter H. Wilson, Esq., J.P. (Vice-President).  
W. J. Jackson, Esq.  
R. G. McCrum, Esq., D.L.  
Jas. Moore, Esq.  
H. M. Pollock, Esq.  
Jas. McConnell, Esq.

**BIRMINGHAM** Chamber of Commerce:  
Ebeneser Parkes, Esq., M.P.

**BIRNTHALL AND DISTRICT** Chamber of Commerce:  
Geo. Huret, Esq.  
Joseph Ramsden, Esq.  
James Ramsden, Esq.  
Charles Hinchcliffe, Esq.

**BLACKBURN AND DISTRICT** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
Joshua Hacking, Esq., J.P.  
Captain John Harwood, J.P.  
James Hargreaves.  
Robert L. Hart.

**BOLTON AND DISTRICT** Chamber of Commerce:  
William Kay, Esq.

**BRADFORD** Chamber of Commerce:  
Amos Crabtree, Esq. (President).  
E. P. Arnold-Foster, Esq., J.P., D.L. (Ex-President).  
Wm. Maude, Esq.  
Wm. Best, Esq.

**BRIATOL** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping:  
Sydney Humphries, Esq.  
George E. Davis, Esq., J.P.  
E. H. Mayo Gunn, Esq.  
G. Palliser Martin, Esq.  
John Mardon, Esq. (President).  
Mark Whitwell, Jun., Esq.

**BURNLEY AND DISTRICT** Chamber of Commerce:  
Thos. Crooks, Esq.

**BURY (Lancs.)** Chamber of Commerce:  
Robert S. Taylor, Esq.  
Henry Heys, Esq.

**CANTERBURY** Chamber of Commerce:  
Gerald F. Adams, Esq.  
Thos. Easton, Esq.  
W. S. Spark.

**CARDIFF** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
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E. Franklin Thomas, Esq.  
J. F. Ferrier, Esq.  
Count de Lucovich.  
James Hurman, Esq.  
Sydney Robinson, Esq.  
T. M. Heywood, Esq.  
J. Kyle Collett, Esq.  
J. H. Mullins, Esq.  
W. R. Hawkins, Esq.  
W. North Lewis, Esq.

**CLECKHEATON** Chamber of Commerce:  
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Edgar W. Jobson, Esq.  
John Hunter, Esq.

**DEWSBURY** Chamber of Commerce:  
John Chadwick, Esq.  
Chaley Fox, Esq.  
Chas. B. Crawshaw, Esq.

**DOVES** Chamber of Commerce:  
John Falconer, Esq. (Treasurer).

**DUBLIN** Chamber of Commerce:  
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F. J. Usher, Esq.

**DUDLEY** Chamber of Commerce:  
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Walter B. Blackie, Esq. (Chairman).  
James Cormack, Esq.  
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John, Chard, Esq.

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John Patterson, Esq.  
N. B. Gunn, Esq.

**GOOLE** Chamber of Commerce and Shipping:  
John Bennett, Esq.

**GREENOCK** Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures:  
John B. Fyfe, Esq.  
Wm. Hardie, Esq.  
Jas. William Turner.

**HALLIFAX** Chamber of Commerce:  
Whiteley Horsfall, Esq.

**HARTLEPOOL** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
A. J. Hunter, Esq., J.P. (Secretary).

**HEALMUNDWICK** Chamber of Commerce:  
W. M. Firth, Esq., J.P.  
Harry Spivey, Esq.  
W. Hellewell, Esq.  
J. C. Batley, Esq.

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Edward Fisher, Esq.  
F. W. Bentley, Esq.

**JERSEY** Chamber of Commerce:  
John H. Wimbis, Esq.  
Jas. Collas, Esq.

**KEIGHLEY AND DISTRICT** Chamber of Commerce:  
Alderman Paget, J.P.  
Samuel C. urgh, Esq.  
J. J. Briggs, Esq.

**KENDAL** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
E. W. Wakefield, Esq., J.P.  
H. W. Baron, Esq.  
George J. McKay, Esq., J.P.

**LEEDA** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
William Beckworth, Esq., J.P.  
Ewing Matheson, Esq.  
J. Peate, Esq., J.P.  
F. W. Tannet-Walker, Esq., J.P.  
J. H. Wurtzburg, Esq., J.P. (President).  
Charles Yates, Esq.

**LEITH** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
James Cormack, Esq.

**LIVERPOOL** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
Charles Lancaster, Esq.  
R. L. Sandle, Esq.  
A. E. Showall, Esq.  
C. P. Lancaster, Esq.  
Jas. Moon, Esq.  
Price Jones, Esq.  
F. Salisbury.  
Thomas H. Barker, Esq. (Secretary).

**LIVERPOOL (The Provision Trade Association):**  
Joseph N. Hodgson, Esq.

**LONDON** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
The Right Hon. Lord Brassey, K.C.B.  
E. J. Gillespie, Esq. (Chairman of the Council).  
Herbert E. Brook-, Esq.  
N. L. Cohen, Esq.  
S. B. Boulton, Esq.  
C. T. Craig, Esq.  
Charles Charleton, Esq.  
Lieut.-General J. Wimburn Laurie, C.B., D.C.L., M.P.  
Ed. T. Agius, Esq.  
K. N. Macfee, Esq.  
F. Swansy, Esq.  
Geo. A. Walker, Esq.  
The Hon. T. A. Brassey.  
William Angus, Esq.  
E. J. Boake, Esq.  
C. W. Rugg, Esq.  
William Statham, Esq.  
R. S. Fraser, Esq.  
Kenric B. Murray, Esq. (Secretary).

**LONDON (The Timber Trade Federation of the United Kingdom):**

S. B. Boulton, Esq. (Ex-President).  
Ward Layle, Esq. (Vice-President).

**LONDON (The Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom):**  
James Cormack, Esq.  
T. V. S. Angier, Esq.

**LONDON (The Society of Chemical Industry):**  
Professor W. R. Lang (Chairman Canadian Section).  
Professor G. P. Girdwood (Vice-Chairman, Canadian Section).

Dr. Fred. J. Smale (Vice-Chairman, Canadian Section).

**LONDON (Australasian Chamber of Commerce in):**  
Edward W. Browne, Esq.



**LONDON** (The British Iron Trade Association):  
John S. Randels, Esq., M.P. (President).  
George Cawley, Esq.  
J. Stephen Jones, Esq. (Secretary).

**LONDON** Flour Trade Association:  
J. C. Pillman, Esq. (Vice-President).

**LONDON** (The Home and Foreign Produce Exchange):  
C. H. Hussey, Esq.  
George A. Corderoy, Esq.

**LONDON** (Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom):  
Sir William H. Holland, M.P.  
Joseph Wallon, Esq., M.P.  
Edward W. Fithian, Esq. (Secretary).

**LONDON** (West India Committee):  
Edgar Tripp, Esq., Port of Spain, Trinidad.  
Hon. J. O. Wright, Bridgetown, Barbados.  
Algernon H. Aspinall, Esq. (Secretary), London.

**LONDON** (Chamber of Commerce):  
Henry Durier, Esq. (President).  
George Ordish, Esq.

**MANCHESTER** Chamber of Commerce:  
S. W. Royce, Esq.  
Nijah Helm, Esq. (Secretary).

**MILLET** Chamber of Commerce:  
Richard Ainley, Esq.

**NEWPORT** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
W. J. Ordern, Esq. (Ex-President).  
A. M. James, Esq.  
Arthur E. Paget, Esq.

**NORTH SHIELDS AND TYNEMOUTH** Chamber of Commerce:  
Councillor C. H. Hogg.  
County Alderman J. R. Hogg.

**NOTTINGHAM** Chamber of Commerce:  
Joseph Wright, Esq.  
Jos. Elliyseald, Esq.  
Geo. Wigley, Esq.  
Paul Meyer, Esq.

**OLDHAM** Chamber of Commerce:  
H. W. Macalister, Esq.  
D. Marsland, Esq.  
Joseph E. Dronsfield, Esq.

**OSWESTRY** Chamber of Commerce:  
Aldermen G. H. Wilson.  
A. Wraith, Esq.  
T. B. Frankland, Esq.  
Edgar Fitton, Esq.

**PLYMOUTH (PORT OF)** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
R. Harvey Dawe, Esq.  
Alfred Latimer, Esq.

**PORTSMOUTH (PORT OF)** Incorporated Chamber of Commerce:  
A. W. White, Esq.  
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## FIRST DAY—MONDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1903

The Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire opened this morning, August 17th, 1903, at ten o'clock a.m., in the Windsor Hall, Montreal, Canada.

Mr. Kenrie B. Murray, of London, secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce, acted as secretary to the Congress.

Lord Strathcona opened with an address and was followed by Lord Brassey, the president of the Congress who occupied the chair.

### LORD STRATHCONA'S ADDRESS.

THE RT. HONOURABLE LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL: Lord Brassey, Gentlemen delegates of the Congress.

GENTLEMEN,—Coming as I do after the distinguished gentlemen who have been honorary presidents of the several congresses of the Chambers of Commerce preceding this one, the distinguished men, the illustrious gentlemen who have filled that position, I may say amongst them the present Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Selbourne, and Lord Avebury, I feel that I am at a very great disadvantage. I follow them without misgiving, humble as I am, and I know I can count on your indulgence and consideration in the little that appertains to me to do as the honorary president of this Congress. I feel proud to be placed in this position, looking around as I do and seeing those gentlemen here who represent so many Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade and industrial associations, not of Canada alone, but I think I may say of the Mother Country and all the outlying portions of the Empire, including the great Empire of India. I venture to think that this great occasion will be regarded by us all as a most auspicious one, alike for Canada as for the Empire generally. It is the first time that the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire has met outside of London, and we in Canada are proud that the Dominion should have been selected for this new departure. It is especially gratifying to the citizens of Montreal and to Canadians generally that the Congress should have decided to hold its 1903 meeting in the Dominion and in the City of Montreal. I feel it a privilege—while it rests primarily with the President and the members of the Board of Trade to extend a cordial welcome to all those here present and taking part in this assembly—still I feel it a privilege as the Honorary President of the Congress and as an old resident of Montreal to offer to the delegates, especially those coming from the United Kingdom, from the colonies of the Empire and from India, who have honored us with their presence; a very hearty and cordial welcome to this city and to the Dominion. And we are none the less pleased to welcome the delegates from other parts of Canada who have come in large numbers with the desire to make this Congress memorable, and to join the citizens of Montreal in extending a hand of brotherhood and friendliness to all our delegates from the Motherland and Britain beyond the seas. I should like to take the opportunity of placing on record the appreciation of the Congress of the part which the Montreal Board of Trade has taken in bringing about this gathering, and especially the time and labor which the past president, Mr. Alexander McFee,—and I know well and personally how he gave himself to that great work (applause)—and the present occupant of that position, Mr. Hodgson, and the council have devoted to ensure its success. (Applause). The fact of its being held outside the United Kingdom is owing in a very large measure to the determination, I may say, of the Board of Trade of Montreal, through its late President, its present President and the council. Of course the same remark applies to the

organization committee in London. All their efforts have been supported by members of the Board of Trade of Montreal, and by the inhabitants of the city generally, and I hope and believe that the memory of this meeting will long remain in the recollection of those who will assist in its deliberations, and that it will be counted among the most successful congresses that have taken place. (Applause).

In the former congress, the fourth, there were representatives of one hundred and seventy-seven different Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, with 383 members attending. On this occasion, so excellent have the arrangements been for the Congress, that we have here now 548 representatives, and in addition to this, I am happy to say, pretty well one hundred others will also exercise a very great influence with the delegates—I refer to the ladies, many of whom we see in the galleries. (Applause). We have also to extend our thanks to the railways of the Dominion. They have taken much trouble in the matter and are determined to give a hearty welcome to the delegates and to give them an opportunity of seeing what Canada really is.

We have had many meetings in Canada in recent years, amongst others two gatherings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, one in 1884 I think it was, and the other three years ago. Also in the latter year we had the meeting of the British Medical Association.

These did much good. They saw for themselves, and on returning to the Motherland and to the other Colonies they were able to give to their fellow citizens a substantial assurance that in Canada we have a very great inheritance for those who are here and for the Empire. (Cheers).

It is well understood that it is largely owing to the initiative taken by past congresses that the English Government first invited the Colonial ministers to attend officially in London. The present gathering is to be followed in a few weeks by the visit of a number of legislators from the United Kingdom who are utilizing their vacation in coming to Canada with a view to learn for themselves its vast resources and capabilities, its capacity for absorbing capital and labor, and the great openings it offers to those who have means, as well as those who have, in the first place at any rate, to depend upon their own exertions for a livelihood.

I look upon the present meeting as calculated to be of great importance, including as it does representatives of the commerce of Australia, South Africa, the West Indies, the various other Colonies, Canada, India and the United Kingdom. It will bring these practical men of business from all parts of the Empire into direct contact with the importers and exporters of Canada. They will see and hear at first hand for themselves what the country is now and what it is likely to become in the future; and we trust and believe that it cannot fail to be beneficial to the trade of Canada and to that of the Empire generally.

We can look forward I hope to similar meetings in other parts of the Empire, and the general feeling will be, I venture to say, that nothing is so likely to bring about that closer union, that community of interests, that expansion of trade and commerce, which we all desire to see accomplished, as periodical gatherings of this kind—parliaments of commerce as they have properly been called. (Hear, hear).

The programme which has been prepared for you is certainly extensive enough to ensure that your time will be fully occupied. It includes many topics that will appeal to those who are concerned in Imperial affairs; but they are one and all connected with those stepping stones in the direction of that Imperial unity, that drawing closer together of the bonds between the different parts of the Empire, which have occupied the

minds of people, for many years, and have never been so prominent as they are today. I have no doubt that your discussions will be watched with more than friendly interest in the different countries from which you come; and, not least of all, by the gentlemen who occupy the position of Secretary of State for the Colonies in the Imperial Government—The Right Honorable Mr. Chamberlain (cheers) whose great services to the Empire will be admitted even by those who may not be altogether in sympathy with the views he has recently expressed on Imperial Trade, and Imperial Trade relations, which are now forming the subject of "enquiry"—that is, I believe, the proper term to be used in connection with the matter in its present state.

Although, as you are aware, the resolutions for discussion are numerous and varied, many of them seem to relate to the question of the Trade relations between the Colonies themselves, and between the Colonies and the Mother Country, and I feel very safe in expressing the opinion that it is likely to take up most of the time of this Congress. That has been the experience of former meetings, and, as it is more than ever the topic of the hour, I have no doubt that it will receive at your hands the consideration which its importance merits.

Of course it would never do for me, as your Honorary President, to do more than refer to the matter in a general way, and, in any case, I have little doubt that the discussion will be keen enough, and long enough, without any intervention on my part. But, I may be permitted to say a few words on this subject, not in any controversial spirit, but with the idea of directing attention to some general consideration that appeared to me to be worthy of notice.

There is no doubt, whatever our opinion may be, that the question has made much progress towards the region of practical consideration in the last few years. The meetings of this Congress have largely helped to keep it before the public, and the proceedings show the manner in which it is regarded by the representatives of Commerce in every part of the Empire. The abrogation of the Belgian and German treaties, and the inauguration of the Canadian Preferential tariff, which followed the Congress of 1896, also served to bring the matter to the front, but the immediate cause of the prominence it has now reached was the Colonial Conference of last year, when the Premiers of the self-governing colonies and the members of His Majesty's Government met for the purpose of discussing various matters of import to the well-being of the Empire. And I think we may say, and that truly, that the former Congresses of the Chambers of Congress of the Empire had no little weight in inducing the ministry to call together that conference of Premiers and members of the Legislature from the various parts of the Empire. (Applause). One other thing it had also a great influence upon, was the establishment of the present Pacific cable reaching to Australasia and going entirely as it does through and upon British property. And in speaking of that we ought not to omit to say how great influence was exerted in that respect by our countryman, our fellow Canadian, Sir Sandford Fleming. (Applause). I remember well signing with him, and very glad indeed I was to follow his initiation, the first paper I think that went before the public with regard to it, and happily it is now an accomplished fact. Perhaps some may say that it has not done so far just as well as they might have expected, but I am sure it will be a satisfaction to all of us to feel that it has really come up already to the mark laid down for it by the committee who considered the matter in the first instance, and all have now a full belief that it will be a profitable investment as well as bringing us closer and closer to the Empire. (Applause).

It would have been gratifying to the Congress if Mr. Chamberlain could have been induced to accept the position of Honorary President this year, but we can

appreciate the reasons which prevented his doing so. We know that his attitude towards the question of preferential trade is not a new one. It has been engaging his attention for many years, and there must be those among us who will recollect his speech to the Congress in 1896. He may be prepared to go further to-day than he was then, and public opinion on the question has developed since that time. But I am afraid that I am talking too long.

LORD BRASSEY:—I was just remarking that you are making a most judicious speech (applause).

LORD STRATHCONA: Thank you. No doubt some of us view with regret the bringing of the matter into the region of party politics. But I suppose that is more or less of the inevitable in the circumstances. There is the tendency to go to extremes on both sides of the question which might also with advantage be avoided, but that course appears to be more or less impossible in such cases. We are hearing too much of "protection" and of "Free Trade," in the abstract, and a good many people seem to think that the old fight under these respective banners is to be reopened. In my judgment, although the proposal for preferential trade within the Empire, if accepted by public opinion, may involve some re-arrangement of the fiscal policy of the United Kingdom, I do not think it will necessitate a return to protection, or result in the burden upon the shoulders of our fellow subjects in the United Kingdom being increased to any appreciable extent, if at all. It ought simply to be a re-adjustment of the methods of raising the revenue necessary for national purposes. (Hear, hear).

The comparatively slight duties that would be required in the United Kingdom to bring preferential trade within the Empire into operation (if any agreement is eventually arrived at upon the subject), could certainly not, it is claimed, be described as protection in the sense in which the term is usually interpreted; and the fact that it would only be necessary to impose duties on a limited number of articles from countries outside the Empire, lower duties or freedom from taxation being extended to similar imports within the Empire, should, if the assumption is correct, go far to remove any feeling on the part of free traders that there is to be any attempt to seriously depart from the principle of free trade, or to foster and promote particular industries at the expense of the foreign trade of the Empire.

What it is desired to bring about, I understand it, is, the promotion of Imperial trade for the benefit of the different parts of the Empire—a result which should be of much advantage in promoting the development of the Empire, and in adding to its wealth, powers and strength. This is purely a matter of domestic concern, and one in which every subject of His Majesty is interested. It would only be adopting a course which every other country has striven for, and which we have neglected. In fact, it is only within the last few years that we have devoted anything like the attention to the subject which its importance deserves. The proposal means, if I understand rightly its purport, that the trade of the United Kingdom would receive a preference in the Colonies and India, and that in return the Colonies and India should receive similar concessions in the products in which they are specially interested in the markets of the United Kingdom. It would be a movement in the direction of freer trade on the part of the Colonies, and no serious departure from the principle of free trade in the case of the United Kingdom. So far as the latter country is concerned, the duties to be imposed would be small, both as regards the number of articles affected, and their incidents, and would hardly lead to an increase in the price of commodities, because the imports from British possessions admitted either free of duty or at

a lower rate of duty than similar imports from foreign countries, would dominate the market and regulate prices.

There is, of course, the larger question that has been mentioned, that of placing the community in the United Kingdom and in other parts of the Empire, in a position to protect its commercial interests, by having the power, which it does not at present possess, of imposing duties against the imports of countries which may treat unfairly the imports of the United Kingdom or the colonies.

That does not necessarily imply the principle of protection in the home markets, but simply the protection of British commercial interests abroad. It may never be needful to bring it into operation, but in any case it could not be but beneficial if it enables British merchants, traders and importers to carry on their business under more favorable conditions than have hitherto prevailed in many parts of the world, and bring about that approach to freer trade in the universe which has been mentioned more than once at our various meetings.

Various side issues have been imported into the discussion, but I need not refer to them. They are matters which must be left to the electorate in the United Kingdom for decision. All that we are concerned in, is a free and full discussion of the general principle, as to the best means of bringing about closer commercial relations between the different parts of the Empire. That is the object of several of the resolutions that are to be discussed.

The colonies are prepared to make some sacrifices in order to bring about what they regard as a desirable result, and we must wait and see what the inquiry into the question, which is going on in the United Kingdom, is likely to bring forth. No general policy, so far as the Empire is concerned can be adopted, unless the Mother Country and the colonies are in accord upon this question. It must be well considered in every point before we come to formulate a policy, but knowing both sides, knowing all the circumstances, it ought not to be very difficult, certainly not an impossible task for statesmen. (Applause). I have no doubt that in any case our discussions of the subject will be watched with much interest, and I am sure that they will be carried on in that free and fair spirit which has always characterized similar discussions at previous meetings of the Congress.

I am sure you will all feel, looking to what has been done by the people of Canada and the people of Montreal, for the comfort, the convenience and the employment of those coming here amongst them, that we are under a very great obligation to the Board of Trade, the President and members, and that we are also greatly indebted to the organizing committee which has done so much, and we ought not to forget that we are under an obligation to the Government in having given a grant for this Congress. (Applause).

My task, light as it has been and wearying, I am afraid for you ("no, no,") has now come to a close, and I have only to wish for this Fifth Congress every success and prosperity, and that the result may issue in what will be of great and general benefit, not for one part alone, but for every portion of the Empire; and with this I have now the very great pleasure, and honor, and privilege of declaring this Congress open. (Loud applause).

If I may be permitted one word which I intended to make at the beginning, it is that I felt my duties, such as they were, were light, from the knowledge gentleman, a nobleman, who has taken part in the industries of the country, who has held a high position in the Government and served his Sovereign right well as a representative in the Australian colonies. We are proud to have with us as President here on

this occasion Lord Brassey, and I know he will now, as on all occasions, give a good account of himself at this Congress. (Loud applause).

#### LORD BRASSEY'S ADDRESS.

THE RT. HONOURABLE LORD BRASSEY, K.C.B., who was received with great cheering, then rose to speak. He said:

LORD STRATHCONA, Gentlemen of the Congress, messieurs mes collègues français.—Je fais mon discours en anglais; à la fin je tâcherai d'ajouter deux mots dans votre belle langue française. Nous désirons maintenir les meilleurs rapports avec nos collègues français. (Applaudissements).

I take the chair to-day, not on the ground of any personal claims, but as President of the London Chamber of Commerce. We have taken the initiative in calling together a meeting of representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in this splendid city of Montreal. So far as the London Chamber of Commerce is concerned, the merit is due not to the Honorary President, but to his colleagues. More particularly am I bound to name Mr. Gillespie, Chairman of our Council, Sir Albert Rolit and the deputation who were so cordially received in Canada last autumn, and last but not least, our able Secretary Mr. Kenric Murray. (Applause).

To our Canadian friends I tender the warmest thanks for their genial welcome, and admirable arrangements.

Gentlemen, we have come together from afar and we have travelled by various means. I have crossed the Atlantic in the Sunbeam, and have arrived somewhat late upon the scene. Thirty-one years ago I made the same voyage in a still smaller vessel, in weather often most tempestuous. I could only have been induced to make another similar venture in my old age, in deference to suggestions that I might possibly contribute a feature of some slight interest to our meeting. We are all more or less amphibious. (Laughter). I must not further dwell on the reminiscences of an old yachtsman, except perhaps to say, that many colonial voyages are some proof of a life long interest in Britain beyond the sea.

Nor need I dwell in detail on the comprehensive programme which will engage the attention of this Congress. There is one prime object for us all. It is to strengthen and consolidate by every practicable means the noble Empire to which we belong. We can all adopt the language of Earl Russell, the statesman, who, among his many acts of political wisdom, early and wisely saw that the way to preserve imperial unity, was to give to all its parts. "In my eyes," said Earl Russell, "it would be a sad spectacle. It would be a spectacle for Gods and men to weep at, to see this brilliant Empire, the guiding star of freedom, broken up." (Cheers).

There is another sentiment which we all share. Our Canadian friends may rest assured that it is the earnest desire of all their guests that their country may prosper. Enlightened self interest combines with our more generous feelings to make us wish prosperity to Canada. (Applause). We well know, that the more prosperous the Dominion the more abundant will be the supplies she will pour into our markets, and the larger her demand for the manufactures we are anxious to supply to a good customer. The resources of Canada are as we know varied in character, and we may almost say they are illimitable in extent. We are here to explore them under the guidance of our most kind hosts.

The early development of Canada's resources is due to your interesting and loyal population of French origin. They were the pioneers. Pioneering is always



arduous. Anglo-Saxon energy came in later, and under easier conditions, and has achieved splendid triumphs. Look to the tonnage of Canada's shipping. Look to the farms of Ontario and the trim settlements of the Lower Provinces. Look to the goodly cities, to their fine buildings, and their busy hives of industry. Look to the mileage of the railways—I cannot allude to the railway without reminding you that my father, as one of the contractors of the Grand Trunk Railway took some considerable part in the development of Canada. (Cheers). It is half a century since, but it is all fresh in my recollection. His name is inscribed in an honorable place on the Victoria Bridge. I am proud to see it there. (Applause).

Even in a business gathering it may be permitted in a passing and imperfect word, to extol the beauties of Canadian scenery. No journey in the world can surpass that which your visitors have begun and will shortly resume. We entered the American continent by the broad water way of the St. Lawrence, navigable for a thousand miles. Travelling onwards to Montreal, we have seen your rivers and waterfalls, your forests, your prosperous towns and pleasant villages and settlements. We have seen Quebec, where the memories of Wolfe and Montcalm still linger—the most historic old world city of the American continent. Going west we shall see the farms and orchards of Ontario. We shall see vast inland seas. We shall see the corn lands of Manitoba, and the ranches on the eastern slopes of the Rockies. As we draw near to the Pacific, we shall pass for two whole days through scenes for variety and grandeur nowhere surpassed. Such scenes recall the words of Byron:—

"Thy vales of green—thy hills of snow,  
Proclaim thee nature's varied favorite now."

And now to a more difficult subject—and I am quite sure that I shall have you with me, if I decline to talk mere platitudes. I am here with a perfectly open mind, and I am quite sure that I shall give you it and value to this meeting, by stating the difficulties which have to be dealt with, and inviting solutions from a body of men—the most competent I will claim it so—the most competent to provide such solutions. (Applause). And I am glad to know from what I have heard privately since I arrived here, that the difficulties seem in a fair way of solution. (Cheers).

Having had some training as a strictly constitutional governor, I have an instinctive desire to keep clear of controversy. My position here, as I have said, is that of President of the London Chamber of Commerce. Officially, I cannot without a mandate express opinions. I can—and it is my duty—invite discussion.

Gentlemen, the proposals lately put forward by Mr. Chamberlain, with all the weight of the official and personal authority to which by his talent and services to the Empire he is entitled, are proposals designed to strengthen the Imperial connection. That is an object, as I have said, which we all have at heart. (Cheers).

Mr. Chamberlain has not always, but he has for many years held the views which he has lately recommended to Parliament, and to the people of the Mother Country. At the conference over which he presided in 1897, and again at the Colonial conference of last year, Mr. Chamberlain urged on the premiers the desirability of closer commercial union within the Empire. He would have preferred a free interchange all round. He asked for no more than a preference in favor of the Mother Country. He recognized that the Colonial Governments must draw their revenues from indirect taxation. Mr. Chamberlain, as I may remind you, asked the conference for such a preference as would be a real benefit to the trade of the Mother Country. With the results of the preference

already granted by Canada he could not declare himself satisfied. If, as he contended a preference, even a "Ministerial preference" to use his own words "was sufficiently protective to exclude us, it was no satisfaction that an even greater disability had been imposed on other countries."

It may be that Canada cannot go further. The policy as it was clearly stated by the Canadian Ministers in the memorandum submitted to the conference of last year is, and is intended to be protectionist. The policy of Canada is the policy of Australia. Viewed from the Colonial standpoint, there is another difficulty—I am bound to point out the difficulties, in the hope that means may be suggested for meeting them.

Gentlemen, what is proposed is in the nature of a bargain. It must clearly be difficult not to say impossible, to make a bargain on mutually satisfactory conditions between a country which is seeking to increase her exports of manufactures, and a country which is chiefly concerned to protect her industries from competition. If engagements are entered into, the free and independent control which the self-governing colonies have so long possessed in fiscal matters, is in some degree fettered. (Hear, hear). The colonies have prized their freedom and independence. At a farewell banquet in Liverpool at the close of the Colonial Conference in 1897, Sir Wilfrid Laurier quoted Rudyard Kipling: "Daughter am I in my mother's house, but mistress in my own." Those words he said expressed truly the colonial sentiment. The colonies have the pride of British connections and Imperial unity. They have not less the pride of local autonomy and the pride of legislative independence.

I offer one more observation from a Canadian point of view. No British statesman can desire that, in the interests of the Mother Country, Canada should take any steps which could be viewed with disfavor by her friendly and powerful neighbour. No change which these later years have witnessed has been more welcome as marking the close of old jealousies and rancours, and as an augury of infinite good to ourselves and to all mankind in the future, as the coming together once more of Britain and the United States into a brotherhood never again to be dissolved. (Applause). The close friendship of all English speaking men, politically independent, but in many points of policy united, should be a prime object for British as for Colonial statesmanship.

Turning to the Mother Country the proposals introduced by Mr. Chamberlain, as I have said with the highest aims in view, have raised, I may say, have inevitably raised the keenest discussion. Let me say it once more, and perhaps never too often, or too sincerely, because it comes from the depth of all our hearts: We are all anxious to keep the Empire together (applause), as well by self interest as by the bonds of sentiment. Yet, a British parliament must be mindful of its responsibilities to its own constituents. The subject is, as Lord Strathearn has justly said, too serious for a leap in the dark. We must enquire, (as we are all now enquiring exhaustively) before we act. And I say it for myself, that an open mind is the best preparation to action.

Gentlemen, it is easy to appreciate that Colonial producers should desire a better price, but that proposition has two aspects. The difficulties were plainly stated some years ago by Lord Salisbury in my hearing, in reply to a deputation from the United Empire Trade League. "If," he said, "you give preferential treatment to your colonies it must be that you tax the similar goods from the rest of the world, and that the Colonies are to command a better price for their goods than they would obtain under unrestricted competition. A better price for the vendor means a more

disagreeable price for the consumer, and we have to receive proof that the people of this country are in favor of a policy of preferential taxes on wheat, on corn, and on wool."

Gentlemen, the observations I have quoted from Lord Salisbury show that changes such as are now proposed must put a strain on the Mother Country. A more open market for British goods would enable us to make sacrifices on our part to strengthen the Imperial connection. Can such a market be offered? That is one of the questions for this conference. It is a question for all those in places of responsibility.

In this connection it is essential to keep in view the enormous expansion of British trade and the vast interests which have been created under a policy which has for many years been accepted. In 1887 the total value of British trade putting together imports and exports was £643,500,000 (sterling). In 1901 it had grown to £870,000,000 (sterling). The value of the trade per head of the population was £17 11s 8d in 1897, and £20 18s 9d in 1901. The wealth of the country is growing all the time. The annual value of property assessed to income tax increased from £678,000,000 (sterling) in 1892 to £833,000,000 in 1901. The improvement is shared in by all classes. The savings deposited in post office banks increased from \$54,000,000 in 1887, to £140,000,000 in 1901. The share capital of industrial and provident societies is another test. The amount increased from £9,000,000 in 1886 to £23,000,000 in 1900. The vast industries which have been created are, let it be remembered, the sole means of livelihood for the cream and flower of our population. If raw materials were dearer, the industries would be crippled.

And there are those, happily a diminishing proportion in the old country, yet still numbered by millions, with whom life is a hard struggle. It will be harder for these, the poorest, the most dependent and the most defenceless, if the price of food is increased. The statesman is bound to take the poorest under his especial care.

By these observations I do not suggest that a shilling a quarter on corn, or even two shillings, would seriously effect the economic condition in England. The poverty of the poorest comes from other causes than an infinitesimal—and I emphasize the word infinitesimal,—addition to the price of bread. A low duty on corn may be balanced by remissions of more burdensome taxation.

Let me say once more, I have stated difficulties with the view, on the present most suitable opportunity, to raise a discussion, and to discover solutions. No body of men can be more competent for the task than the representatives of commerce of the Empire. And now I turn to other means by which the Mother Country may help in the development of Colonial resource. New countries need population—let us send you of our best. We are crowded—here you have ample room, and you offer ample opportunities. There are many other ways in which we can help you. A cable has been laid, connecting Australia and Canada, with the aid of an Imperial subsidy. That useful work has been mentioned by Lord Strathcona in his address. A quick mail service between Australia and England has also been discussed. Judging by my recent experience it cannot be denied that the approaches on the Atlantic side are not rarely beset by fog. The highest speed could not always be maintained. On the Pacific side there are no difficulties. It is highly desirable that an Imperial subsidy should be given to a line of first-class steamers connecting Vancouver with Australia.

To be generous in subsidies to steam services and cables, to make no undue demands for contributions for Imperial forces, to be content in the present stage, if local defence is sufficiently assured, to show to the

daughter states on every happy opportunity, how proud we are of their youthful strength, how high their Motherland holds them in her regard; all this is wise policy, and beyond controversy. (Cheers).

I have one more subject to which it is a grateful duty to refer. We have been hearing in an undertone, that unless we can strengthen the bonds of sentiment by those of material interests, the Empire may break up. I am all for extending the commercial relations by every practicable means. I cannot regard the bonds of material interest, as those which are of the most paramount importance. What are the real bonds which unite us? It was well said by one of my predecessors in the Government of Victoria, Sir Geo. Bowen: "The people of the Motherland, and the self-governing Colonies, are a great homogeneous people, one in blood, in language, religion and laws—dispersed indeed over a boundless space, and yet held together by strong moral ties." We may add that in the present age of the world, in the increased and increasing facilities of communication, even political unions may exist on a vaster scale than were possible in former days. (Cheers).

Fear of separation never came to me during my residence of five years—five happy years—in Australia. Nowhere could we look for more loyal demonstrations than were made in Victoria on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of her late Majesty of blessed memory. The Irishmen were conspicuous with their green scarfs in every procession. I was serving in Australia when the first contingents were dispatched to South Africa. I was an eye witness at those moving scenes. There was the same disinterested patriotism, the same loyalty to the old flag, in free trade Sydney as in protectionist Victoria. It did not spring from tariffs. The people had carried from there into their new homes beneath the Southern Cross an undying love for the old home. They were inspired by the same feelings which in an early age of the world were kept alive in the Greek Colonies by the sacred fire brought from the parent State, and kept for ever burning, and we have the testimony of those on this important question highest in authority. The benefit through which the distant Colonies of His Majesty through their British citizenship enjoyed were acknowledged in fitting terms in an address presented to the Queen by the delegates to the first Colonial Conference in 1887. It was in these glowing terms:—

"Your Majesty's reign, has, under Divine Providence, endured for half a century; and, amidst revolutions and changes of dynasty and of systems of government in other countries, the principles of the laws of your predecessors for a thousand years all offer your subjects that safety and prosperity, and the Empire that stability, which claim the admiration of the world."

The delegates concluded their address with the prayer that the Queen's throne might remain established in the land in justice and righteousness for generations to come. Our lamented and venerable Queen has been called to her rest, and King Edward her son now reigns in her stead. (Cheers). We shall all acknowledge with deep feelings of loyalty the many services which the King is rendering to the Empire, and chiefly in the cause of peace abroad and loyal contentment at home. It is no exaggeration to say, that the recent exchanges of visits between the King and the allied sovereigns of Portugal and Italy, and still more his visit to the President of the French Republic, have had a magical effect in bringing together neighbouring nations too long estranged. No minister could have accomplished what the King has done. He could not have spoken as the King speaks, in the undivided name of all his people. At the date of my departure, the King and Queen were in Ireland, winning the hearts of the people wherever they went. (Cheers).

Gentlemen, the bonds which unite us do not depend on personal associations. Four in five of the people of Canada are native born. We have the testimony of my

old and valued friend, Dr. Parkin, that the fact has not weakened in the slightest degree the closeness of sympathy with Great Britain and the Empire. Canadian sentiment was eloquently expressed by a statesman whose loss was deeply felt in Canada and in England, I speak of Sir John Thompson, then the Premier.

"On this happy occasion," he said: "These delegates assemble after long years of self-government in their countries—years of greater progress and development than the colonies of any Empire have yet seen in the past. We have met not to consider the prospect of separation from the Mother Country, but to plight our faith to you and to each other as brethren, and to plight anew with the Motherland that faith which has never yet been broken or tarnished." (Cheers). And now, in conclusion, in the name of the British delegates to this Congress I say that they have come here—their hearts full of fraternal feelings for the Canadian people, and eager to express that sentiment by practical work for the common advantage.

"Britain's myriad voices call,  
Sons be welded, each and all,  
Into one Imperial whole."

"One life, one flag, one fleet, one throne,  
Britons, hold your own,  
And God guards all."

(Cheers.)

I don't know, gentlemen, in what light you regard these addresses of Lord Strathcona and your humble servant—they cost some pains to prepare and no light labor to ourselves—(laughter)—but I hope it was a joy to you to hear them. (Applause).

I have to make an announcement to you. It has been proposed, I may say with a view to the more satisfactory progress of business, when we come to deal with the subjects which are now under private consideration, we propose to postpone until tomorrow afternoon the first twelve resolutions on the paper. You will observe that that is postponing to a somewhat later opportunity, when perhaps we shall be more prepared for a decision of the whole question of fiscal policy. Now, we take first for to-day the thirteenth resolution, the first, dealing with the defences of the Empire.

In the meantime I would invite the delegates, connected more particularly with the resolutions numbers one to twelve, to retire into the committee room which has been provided, with a view of reducing, as far as possible, the number of resolutions. I am happy to be able to tell you that the chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Gillespie, will preside over that committee and that the meeting is fixed for 11.45. I now call upon the representative of the Canadian Manufacturers Association to propose resolution No. 13.

#### DEFENCES OF THE EMPIRE.

MR. GEO. E. DRUMMOND (First Vice-President of the Montreal Board of Trade): By special request, and with a view to facilitating the business of this Congress, I have been asked to represent also the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, of which body I have the honor to be Vice-President.

My Lord President and Gentlemen: I have the honor, on behalf of the Montreal Board of Trade, to submit a resolution, that will, I think, commend itself to all Britons as embodying a proposition at once reasonable and just, and which, I venture to hope, will secure the unanimous support of the members of this Congress, thereby ratifying the action of the last Congress, held in London, in 1900, when the delegates supported, by what was practically a unanimous vote, a similar resolution, also prepared and submitted by the Board which I now have the privilege of representing. The resolution reads:—

Resolved:—"That this Congress hereby affirms the principle that it is the duty of the self-governing Colonies to participate in the cost of the Defence of the Empire."

The resolution is drawn on broad lines because we desire as business men to simply acknowledge today the obligation that unquestionably rests upon the Colonies to bear their fair share of the cost of an Imperial service, which at least in the matter of Naval Defence, is daily and hourly utilized by them in the carrying on of their independent trade and commerce the world over, a service too which guards sacredly the rights of the British subject everywhere, whether he hails from Australia, Canada, or the heart of the Empire itself. (Applause).

While we, of necessity, deal simply with the principle involved leaving it to our legislators to work out in detail the methods by which, and the form in which each self-governing colony can best contribute, without lessening that sense of freedom of action which is the very essence and strength of the loyalty that presently binds us to our Mother Country, yet taking Canada as an example, it may be as well to consider here, as briefly as the importance of the subject will admit, what would seem to be the best course to pursue.

I am sure we will all agree that in adopting legislative measures in respect to this important question, the Home and Colonial Governments must see to it that the right spirit of pride in Canadian institutions possessed by our people—the national spirit of a free people—is in no way injured by the methods adopted for the payment of what is simply a just debt.

Knowing something of Canadian feeling and sentiment, I cannot too strongly emphasize the fact that whatever arrangement be made for Canadian participation in the defence of the Empire it must preserve independence of action to the Canadian Parliament. (Applause). The permanent solidarity of what I may term our "Imperial Alliance" depends largely, I believe, on a continuance of the methods that have given to the self-governing Colonies' governments truly representative of the will of the Colonial people themselves, and with freedom of action to enact laws best suited to the upbuilding and permanent welfare of the particular sections of the Empire, with the safety of which these Colonial governments and people are entrusted. (Applause).

Dealing with Canada,—let us see what we owe for Imperial Defence, and how we can liquidate the debt without handicapping the development of the country, and without injuring in the slightest degree the growth of a proper national sentiment and love of Canada itself.

As to what Canada has done, and is now doing, in the matter of defence; quoting on the direct authority of Mr. George Johnson, Dominion Statistician.

First.—We maintain a Militia Force, Military College and Schools, garrison some of the forts, etc., at an annual cost of about \$2,000,000.

Second.—We contribute to the cost of the defences of British Columbia about \$150,000 per year.

Under normal conditions we do not contribute to the cost of the fortifications and military at Halifax, N.S., as that is an Imperial establishment.

During the South African war Canada's aid to the Empire was, officers and men, 8,372; of whom 224 were killed and 252 wounded. The money cost was \$2,830,963.

In regard therefore to the military defence of our immediate territory, it is apparent that we are already doing at least something to show that we realize our duty and our obligation, and South Africa afforded us an opportunity to prove that our loyalty is not merely the quality known as that of the lip (applause), we have still much to do before we meet our obligation in full

(with regard to which I will speak presently), but I think it will be generally admitted that with our almost limitless boundary and coast lines, we, in Canada, will (except when real danger to the Empire threatens us, as in South Africa), have our due share of ordinary military work if we undertake the efficient protection of our own section of the British Empire, namely the vast territory known as the Dominion of Canada. (Applause).

Whatever we can urge in respect, however, to what we have done for the Empire with regard to military defence, our omission until now to bear our fair share of the national burden in the matter of naval defence is wholly indefensible and inexcusable. It is humiliating to think that at this late date the Dominion of Canada, eventually growing daily in wealth and importance, aspiring to eventually furnish the Mother Country with the bulk of her food supply, reaching out for a foreign trade in every quarter of the globe, possessing on her registry over 666,000 tons of shipping, is, in respect to the whole, enjoying naval protection on the high seas at the cost of British tax payers, and so far as our Canadian tax payers are concerned the splendid protection of the flag provided as free as the air we breathe, and without an official murmur from us. The position is intolerable to a self-respecting people. (Applause). Our American and other competitors, in offering their wheat and other products to our Mother Country, undertake to deliver the goods safely under the protection of navies paid for by their own people. If only, as a business proposition we must face the situation and meet our competitors on a fair basis. Our representatives in Parliament cannot settle this question one moment too soon for the right thinking people of this country.

It is naturally a somewhat difficult matter for this Congress to estimate what would be Canada's due proportion of the cost of military and naval defence, and that is a question which must naturally be left to our Governments to decide, but at least it is a question worth discussing here.

In this connection I am further indebted to my friend, Mr. Geo. Johnson, Dominion Statistician, for the following calculations.

He says:—"The basis which I would propose as the central idea is that the British Navy exists because of the need of the export and import trade of the Empire for protection. The cost of the navy is the insurance paid against loss by the hostile acts of the King's enemies on the high seas. In other words, the navy exists in order to secure safe conduct for the mercantile tonnage which carries the tons of freight representing imports and exports of the several portions of the Empire, and the distribution within each part of what is commonly known as the coasting trade. The latter is difficult to get at, but in all parts of the Empire the tonnage required for carrying the freight which represents the business done with the outside world and with each other is known. Thus, the total shipping entered and cleared at all ports of the Empire amounts to 236,000,000 tons.

"The total cost of protecting that tonnage amounts to £31,664,000 or in round numbers say \$155,000,000. This is equal to say 65c per ton.

"Our Canadian shipping and out amounts to 14,700,000 tons, and if 65c a ton would make our annual contribution \$9,555,000, leaving the other portions of the Empire to make up the difference.

"A simple calculation will show how much each part would have to pay.

"There would be a little difficulty in the case of Hong Kong, which has a large number of vessels entered and cleared without having any corresponding trade.

"If now we take ownership of vessels, the British Empire has 11,123,967 registered tons of shipping. The estimates for 1901 give about \$155,000,000, as the cost of the Navy. This is equal to about \$14.00 a ton of the registered shipping.

"Canada has 666,276 tons of shipping on her registry. This at \$14.00 would make our annual contribution \$9,300,000.

"On the basis of exports and imports the trade of the British Empire is about \$6,900,000,000 a year. This makes the cost of protection about 2 1-3% of the total export and import trade. Canada's business was \$400,000,000 in 1901. At 2 1-3% Canada's share would be \$9,300,000 a year.

"Taking these three plans of computing the insurance cost of the navy we find practically the same result.

"Taking the corresponding figures of imports and exports of the United States and the annual amount expended on the Navy, the figure is 3%, somewhat more than the rate of the British Empire. Anyone of these plans would, therefore seem to be well fitted for the purpose.

"If we belonged to the United States, our share, based on exports and imports, would be somewhat more, as I have shown. If we belonged to France, we would have to pay 3.6% for navy insurance. If we were independent we would have to provide ourselves with a navy, and then Holland would be a good example of the cost of a navy. I think that country has a dozen ships of war, several coast defence monitors, besides torpedo boats, etc., and maintains a naval force of 8,000 seamen."

Now on the basis worked out by Mr. Johnson, Canada's proportion may seem large, but I would submit, sir, that there are several matters to be taken into consideration that in a just and equitable arrangement will tend to decrease the amount we owe and to allow for our contribution taking forms that will help to develop Canadian resources and enterprises, whilst at the same time making for the consolidation and impregnability of the Empire as a whole.

In the first place we must, to a certain extent at least, take into account what Canada has expended in the construction of railways that are or may be of service to the Empire.

Halifax and Quebec are connected by railways costing a principal sum of \$74,000,000.

To the Canadian Pacific Railway which connects the defence of the Pacific coast with the Atlantic and affords the central authority of the Empire an alternative route to the British possessions in Asia, Canada has contributed \$62,700,000 in money, and 37,000,000 acres of land. It is well known of course that these railways were built primarily for the consolidation and development of Canada herself, and therefore immensely to her own profit, and in the case of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the profits and dividend earning power in the enterprise for private investors in Canada, Great Britain and elsewhere, who were willing to risk their money, yet these railways are doubtless, in a sense, important to the British Empire, in somewhat the same way though to a less degree as the Siberian Railway is to Russia. Let us hope further that the early establishment of fast steamship services on both the Atlantic and Pacific will make perfect this Imperial highway between Great Britain and her eastern possessions, and its utility to the Empire beyond question.

Making all due allowance however for what we have done in the matter of railway construction and what we may do with respect to fast mail services, our annual obligation for naval defence would still represent a very respectable expenditure that would form, no doubt, a welcome addition to Imperial resources, and that when officially acknowledged and provided for by our Gov-



ernment, would create a feeling of just pride and manly independence in the breast of every Canadian.

I am convinced, sir, that our contribution to Imperial Defence should be based upon the idea of relieving the central authority of all cost of defending Canada, and I hold that in undertaking this duty a magnificent opportunity will be afforded our Government and people to establish in Canada the enterprise of ship building, to foster the production of armour plate (for which, with our wealth of nickel and iron, we are equipped by nature in a very exceptional way) to encourage, for instance, among other new industries, the production of acetone (base for cordite) which we can, on account of our forest wealth, produce probably more cheaply at our Canadian charcoal by-products plants than it can be produced anywhere else in the civilized world.

In establishing and developing such enterprises we will at the same time be making Canada, in the matter of appliances and munitions of war, a base of supplies on this North American Continent which in time of war on either the Atlantic or Pacific would be of incalculable value to the whole Empire.

As to the desirability of having such a base of supplies in Canada and elsewhere in the self-governing Colonies, let me quote an eminent English authority. I refer to Admiral Sir John C. R. Colomb, and to an article by him which appeared in the *Fortnightly Review*, of August, 1900. Sir John Colomb advocated the establishment of shipyards, arsenals, supply depots, and large garrisons in Canada and Australia. He said:

"Although since the Napoleonic wars a whole hemisphere has been added to British responsibilities, we ignore the fact in our naval policy of to-day. Producing power to meet naval requirements in the other hemisphere is localised and limited to one island in this. Every ship, however small; almost every appliance, however, insignificant; every gun, rifle or revolver, every pound of powder, and every shot required for naval purposes at the other side of the world, must be produced at home and pass over half the circumference of the globe to their destination. That is our policy and our practice. Can it be fairly said, it is unavoidable and inevitable, in view of the fact that the Dominion of Canada and Australia are integral portions of our Empire with seaboard on the Pacific. They are rapidly developing, in the pursuit of wealth and manufacturing power rivalling our own.

Those who assert that this policy we pursue is unavoidable and inevitable are bound to explain why Australasia and Canada so differ from the United States and Japan as to forbid the establishment in these great limbs of the Empire of the means of production and manufacture necessary for purposes of war which these foreign States possess. The truth is our present policy of centralizing the manufacture and supply of appliances and munitions of war to meet not merely naval but military requirements of a world State, is wholly indefensible and fraught with peril.

The broad fact that the whole Empire now looks to this wonderful island of ours to supply almost everything necessary to carry on war is in itself sufficiently remarkable. How much more ominous becomes its contemplation when we remember that the number of establishments in this island, on which the whole Empire so relies, may almost be counted on the fingers.

Sir John Colomb has always been regarded as a very high authority in naval matters. Admiral Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, G.C.B., has said of him:

"The influence of sea power upon history is now an accepted principle, but that principle I would remind you was brought forward by Sir John Colomb, as far back as 1873. Speaking for myself, I may say that when I was Commander-in-Chief of the China Station some years ago, I based my plans for the defence of our commerce on that station on those lectures of Sir John Colomb's at the United Service Institution, and on the works of his brother Philip, and although Captain Mahan has gained such credit for his book, which was so wonderfully well put together, I would point out that he derived the foundation for that work from the Colombes."

Basing therefore upon the idea of relieving Britain of all cost of defending Canada, whilst at the same time securing on this North American Continent an efficient base of supply on British soil, let us see what can be effected.

Our Canadian expenditure last year for militia and defence was a little over \$2,000,000, and the expendi-

ture on the North West Mounted Police Force (which is really a military organization, and a good one) about \$950,000, making a total of just about \$3,000,000.

Now I would suggest Sir, that the Canadian Government go a step further and immediately offer to garrison Halifax and Esquimaux (applause), and undertake to pay the full cost of maintaining the fortifications of these places. This would entirely relieve Britain of any army expenditure in Canada. At present Esquimaux is garrisoned jointly by Imperial and Canadian troops, the Dominion Government contributing in addition to the pay and maintenance of the Canadian troops, half the cost of the maintenance of the Imperial troops.

The cost of maintaining the British garrison at Halifax, is probably in the vicinity of \$500,000 per annum, exclusive of the sums spent on new construction and betterments.

At a conservative estimate, therefore, Canada could accomplish the desired end of relieving Britain from all responsibility in respect to the present military defence of Canadian territory, by increasing our annual expenditure by \$1,000,000, in other words, making the total cost to the Canadian Government for the present military defence of our own territory, say \$4,000,000.

There are doubtless various ways in which the efficiency of Canadian regulars and militia can be greatly improved. With regard to this I would draw attention to a very able article which appeared in the *"Empire Review"* May, 1902, entitled "An Imperial Alliance" from the pen of one of our cleverest Canadian journalists, and I think one of the most earnest students of political economy in this country—I refer to Mr. Watson Griffin, of Toronto. In the article in question, he argues strongly in favor of an Imperial Alliance rather than an Imperial Parliamentary Federation, and he shows that the great father of Canadian confederation, Sir John A. Macdonald, whose loyalty to Britain was beyond question, favored the same idea, as evidenced by his speeches during the Confederation debates and subsequently by his letters to Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies, written as late as 1889, twenty-one years after confederation.

With reference to an Imperial Army and to the naval defence of the Empire, Mr. Griffin suggests as a general plan that in the case of the army, each member of our Imperial Alliance should, in time of peace have control of its own army, but in time of war, the Commander-in-Chief of the British army should assume control of the allied armies. He also suggests that a system of interchanging regiments should be adopted, whereby Canadian and other Colonial regulars would have opportunity from time to time of serving for a period in England, whilst British regiments replace them in the colonies, (applause), all making for uniformity of system and an altogether better co-operation, tending also to establish a more efficient system of army transportation, which could not fail to be of immense value in case of war. (Applause).

Mr. Griffin further suggests that the same opportunity of serving for a briefer period in England should each year be afforded to the members of our Canadian volunteer regiments, a limited number of men being drafted from each regiment and formed into one body under their own officers, in the same way that the Canadian contingents for South Africa were organized. (Applause).

With regard to naval defence, Mr. Griffin writes:—"But while it would be easy to arrange that each nation of the Empire would have entire control of its army in time of peace, it would not be practicable in the first place for the colonial nations to have

absolutely independent navies. Each colonial nation could have its own warships and its own officers and men, but the movements of the fleet when outside of their own waters should be under the control of the British Admiralty office. As soon as Canada and Australia have a sufficient number of warships of their own, they should have vice-admirals in command of their fleets.

With regard to the main question that of expenditure for naval defence, Canada should in her own interest, as well as in that of the Empire, make almost immediately something like the following proposal:

There are now regularly 13 British warships on the North American and West Indian station, and seven ships on the Pacific station. The ships at present in the service are, aside from the flag ships, chiefly first, second and third class cruisers. Basing upon guarding the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Canada, Bermuda and the West Indies in 1898, the total value of the ships (sloops, gunboats and destroyers included) was somewhere about £3,657,000, or a little less than \$18,000,000. The cost of the fleet doing service to-day is no greater than that employed in 1898.

Now taking into account the growing importance of our trade and commerce, and our increasing wealth and population, let the Dominion Government agree to replace gradually with Canadian built warships of modern and efficient type, including training ships, the British vessels now composing the fleets upon something like the following plan:—

The Canadian Government and people are most anxious to establish shipyards in Canada, and it is almost certain that with this end in view, our Government will eventually grant a bounty for the building of merchant vessels. Looking to an early accomplishment of this purpose and the absolute necessity of providing for naval defence, the Dominion Government should decide to expend within say the next 15 years, the sum of \$30,000,000 to construct in Canada warships to replace those composing the present British fleets. This would be equivalent to an expenditure of \$2,000,000 annually for 15 years, but would not necessitate an annual tax for construction of \$2,000,000. The amount could be charged to capital account and could doubtless be borrowed at 3% or less, involving an interest charge on total first cost of the fleet when completed, of not over \$900,000 annually. As the money need only be borrowed as we proceed with the construction of the ships, the interest charge would fall very lightly in the first years of the period mentioned, in short we could assume the responsibility gradually, and as we grow in population and wealth.

The Canadian Government should at once enter into negotiations with one of the great British ship yards, to induce them to establish a branch at one or other of our Dominion ports. It is almost certain that with such a contract as our Government would have to give, supplemented by the business to be secured in the building of merchant vessels, and possibly additional aid from the Imperial Government in the way of contracts, there would be little difficulty in persuading one of the great British ship building firms to establish works on Canadian soil, bringing with them naval architects and expert ship builders, and founding an enterprise of vast importance to Canada, and probably of very great service to the Empire. While these warships must be built in Canada, the specifications should be made by the British Admiralty Board, and the ships when completed should be satisfactory to that board.

The Canadian built vessels should be manned as much as possible by Canadian seamen (applause), but officered and maintained for the present in the same way as other British warships, and kept under the direction of the British Admiralty Board until such time as the

whole fleet necessary to replace the present British ships is completed.

With regard to the maintenance of the ships built in Canada, I would submit, Sir, that, as the obligations of contributing to naval defence already rests upon us, therefore during the fifteen years mentioned as necessary for the construction of the Canadian fleet, the Dominion Government should contribute annually the sum of \$1,000,000, towards the maintenance of the fleets doing duty in Canadian waters, with the understanding, if necessary, that the coal and other supplies that we are fitted to produce should be obtained from Canadian sources, and paid for out of this fund.

I learn that our Nova Scotia coal is at the present moment being tested by the Imperial authorities to determine its steaming qualities and its general adaptability for use on the ships of the navy. It would naturally be of considerable importance for both Nova Scotia and Cape Breton to have native fuel used on the ships composing the fleet, and the same applies to the coaling of the Pacific fleet with British Columbia coal.

At the end of the period of fifteen years, Canada should assume the whole cost of maintaining the Canadian fleet, establishing at that time, if necessary, a Canadian Admiralty Board that would assume full direction for the Dominion as an integral part of our Imperial Alliance.

To sum up: taking into account the interest charge on the total cost of construction, together with the \$1,000,000 per annum which we would contribute towards the maintenance of the fleet doing duty in Canadian waters, we would not at any time during the next fifteen years be called upon to assume, for our naval defence, a greater annual expenditure than \$2,000,000, and, as a matter of fact the interest charge included in this will amount to very little in the earlier years of the undertaking. If, at the close of the period mentioned, we reach the point where we shall have assumed full responsibility for both military and naval defence of Canadian territory and interests, and do it at an annual expenditure of at the utmost not over \$5,000,000, in excess of what we now pay for our military defence alone, whilst at the same time accomplishing much for the material development of our country and for the consolidation of the Empire, we shall have done well indeed. (Cheers).

Above all we shall have removed the reproach under which Canada now rests in regard to naval defence, and will have maintained our self-respect by relieving British taxpayers of an expense which in all honor should rest upon ourselves. (Applause).

Our brothers from the Mother Country and sister Colonies, whom we welcome heartily today, may well ask why Canada has not moved in the matter of naval expenditure before now, when Australia has led the way, and when under the "Navy Contribution Act of 1898" the Cape of Good Hope provided the sum of £30,000 to be paid annually out of the public revenue of that Colony as a contribution towards the annual expenditure by the Imperial Government in connection with the naval services; further a gift of 12,000 tons of coal for the use of the British Navy is made annually by the Natal Government. How readily, and probably with far reaching good results, for instance for our Nova Scotia mines, our Government could follow Natal's example, and provide at once as a free gift the 20,000 or 25,000 tons of coal per annum necessary to coal the present North American Squadron.

If the premier Colony, Canada, has in the past been behind her sisters let us hope that she will, on that account, do all the more in the future. We would have our brethren from over the seas believe that if we Canadians have hitherto neglected our duty, at least our hearts are warmly British. (Applause).

The past can speak for us in the matter of loyalty. We point with just pride to the United Empire Loyalists,

who, in maintaining their allegiance to the Mother Country, sacrificed as Nova Scotia's great son, Joseph Howe, has truly said, "everything save their principles;" (applause), to the men of Queenstown Heights and Chateauguay, immortalized in the history of this country (applause), and last but not least to the Canadian boys who upheld the record of their fathers in South Africa, fighting shoulder to shoulder with the veterans of Britain and their brethren of the sister colonies to uphold the honor of the flag. (Cheers).

We have had an opportunity in military annals to show our people worthy of the great nations from which we sprung. As for the Navy, let our Government but give the opportunity and we will prove that the race of sailors we are breeding along our Atlantic coast and on our great lakes are as fearless a race of seamen as Blake or Nelson ever led to victory, and they are, thank God, British to the core. (Cheers).

I move the resolution as printed.

#### CONGRESS PHOTOGRAPHED.

**THE PRESIDENT:** It is intimated to me that the public at large cannot all be here and it would be very much disappointed if they were not provided by the methods of the photographic art with a picturesque scene which is presented to us here. On this account it is well, and in deference to the engagement of Lord Strathcona it is proposed that the photographer should now seize the happy opportunity.

**MR. JOHN PATTERSON** (incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers, Glasgow): "The acoustics of this hall are so defective that we cannot hear a tithe of what the speakers say. It is going to take much of the interest of the Congress away if the delegates are not able to hear what is said by the speakers who come before us. I do not know what can be done to remedy this defect unless you, Mr. President, get the gentlemen who are speaking to come to the centre of the Chamber.

**THE PRESIDENT:** I quite agree with what our friend says. The speaker for the moment should come to that position in which he can best be heard, and I hope the gentlemen who follow will take note of the point raised by the delegate from Glasgow. At the moment, however, a photographer has the floor.

At this point a group photograph of the gathering was taken.

#### DEFENCES OF THE EMPIRE.

The debate on the resolution submitted by Mr. Geo. E. Drummond was then resumed.

**LORD BRASSEY:**—The resolution will now be seconded by Mr. Gurney, of Toronto.

**MR. EDWARD GURNEY** (Toronto): In the history of this country we have determined some things for ourselves finally, and one of these is British connection. There has been a time in the history of this country when the experiments of government to the south of us looked interesting, and the experiment of governments in the British Empire was quite as interesting, but to-day we have no two parties in Canada, we are all for British connection. (Applause.) We have passed through the boyish stage of life during which it is a good thing to get out of the old man all that you can. And we have come to that time of manhood, when that same thing being done designates a man as a *beat*. To-day Canadians are not prepared to stand in that relation to the Empire. We have come to the time when without exception, throughout this country, the people are prepared to bear their fair proportion of the necessary expenses of policing the land and policing seas. It is quite common for people in considering this question of the Army and Navy to associate them with the idea of

war. An army and navy are as necessary in time of peace as they are in time of war, and there is no citizen of the British Empire who needs the British army and navy and consular system more than the citizen of Toronto or Montreal.

Now, sir, the previous speaker, the mover of this resolution has covered the ground so thoroughly as to statistics that I shall not attempt to follow or to give you any of those which I have prepared, but I desire to say in seconding this resolution that we want a man in Canada who will not only say as I have said here to-day, that we need to be contributors to the maintenance of the army and navy and to the consular system of the British Empire, but a man who will provide a scheme, some man who will have the courage of his conviction in Parliament or at the head of the Government, who will come forward and declare what the public sentiment of Canada is, and give it concrete form. (Applause.)

Now, sir, we have come to a time in the history of the British Empire not unlike that which the people of the United States approached in the early sixties. They had before them the local interests of the several States, in which they lived. They were on the verge of disintegration simply because they needed leadership in the direction of that which was right and moral and in consonance with the great system which they were attempting to establish. Their federal system amounted to nothing. Each State stood by itself. The State of New York had those principles which were embodied in what was called the "Bell and Everett" ticket, which meant that money is the great consideration. The people of South Carolina had as the basis of their policy the slave system, and for that they were willing to sacrifice the whole interests of the great United States, in order to protect their own institution. Now, sir, Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins once wrote a novel together, not the best that either of them had produced, it is called "No Thoroughfare." Some of you Englishmen will remember, there is one character in the book named "Obenizer," who admired everything in the English system, because it had a value represented by pounds, shillings and pence. If you insult me by striking me upon the face that is all provided for in the British Constitution. It is measured by pounds, shillings and pence. If you invade my home and destroy my family it is provided for in the British Constitution. It is pounds, shillings and pence. My Lord President, let us at this stage of the history of the British Empire not attach too great significance to pounds, shillings and pence. There is a concrete sentiment underlying this movement. We have come by this time to a new point in the experiment of Imperial government. We are not prepared, perhaps to adopt the federal system, but we may assume an attitude of fairness to each other, we may assume an attitude of generosity and good sentiment in relation to the great principles we have before us. We are in the position that we scarce know where we are going, but we do know this, that we want to maintain the system of government under which we live, and so do we want to approach this thing with something less of the commercial thought in our minds. You take up a British paper and look at what it contains and you are struck with the idea that the British are thinking chiefly of their food products, and how much more it is going to cost. Take up a Canadian paper and two to one you will find that the local interest of Canada is made paramount, and everything affecting the Empire is made subordinate to it. My dear sirs, what we want to do at this time is to approach this thing in the spirit of statemanship, in a Canadian spirit and in a British spirit, and make up our minds that we will take each successive step in a spirit calculated to produce the most good for the Empire. I have great pleasure in seconding the motion.

**LORD BRASSEY:** Messieurs les délégués des Chambres de Commerce du Canada, nous nous félicitons de nous trouver parmi vous. Je suis persuadé que vous prêterez un concours pratique et actif aux délibérations si importantes du Congrès.

**Mr. D. MASSON,** President of the Chambre de Commerce, Montreal, offered an amendment, he said:

With regard to the Defence of the Empire, if we could allow ourselves to be guided merely by sentiments of sympathy, no British Canadian could look askance upon the needlessly lavish offer contained in the resolution now before this Congress. But the fact of its being referred for discussion to a commercial assembly and more so to such high business authorities, makes it quite evident that it cannot be considered otherwise than from a business point of view.

And business by its nature offering no advantage, except through profits, I have every reason to believe that by carefully dealing with the vital question now before us, you will not only acknowledge the building on self interest, instead of sentiment is the most enduring foundation, but moreover, be convinced that discretion is by far our best policy.

To the resolution of the Montreal Board of Trade, offered by Mr. Drummond, I beg to move the following amendment:

It is resolved:—"That the colonies having on all occasions willingly done their duty towards the Empire, this Congress is of opinion that by devoting their revenues to develop their own resources, increase their population and provide for their self-defence, they thereby freely contribute in the most efficient way to the strength and prestige of the Empire."

"The Colonies thus claim the privilege of keeping their own initiative as to the nature and mode of help which they may agree to offer in future to the British Empire."

In making this motion I think it is my duty as President of the Chambre de Commerce du district de Montréal, the oldest French Canadian commercial institution of this country, to avail myself of this opportunity not only to heartily welcome in our midst such distinguished delegations emerging from all parts of our great British Empire, but also to sincerely thank the London Chamber of Commerce, who so courteously accepted the invitation to hold its fifth quadrennial Congress in our Metropolis.

May I add that such an assembly is the best evidence that space to a great extent is annihilated and distance which separates Great Britain from its Colonies is no longer a barrier to free communications and personal intercourse. May such a gathering prove to be most beneficial to the trade and commerce of the whole Empire and afford Britons the best means to get thoroughly acquainted with our promising country and its inhabitants. (Hear hear.)

Let us also hope that it may give us French Canadians, most loyal British subjects, the long sought for opportunity of bringing to the knowledge of our English fellow-countrymen, what we have been, what we are, and what we intend to be in regard to the British Empire. (Cheers.)

La Chambre de Commerce, which I have the honor to represent, is a French Canadian institution, whose members are always ready and pleased to discuss commercial or other matters in their own as well as in the English language, whenever the occasion requires it.

Ever since its origin, our institution has devoted all its energy to the prosperity and welfare of our Province as well as to the improvement of internal commercial relations within the Empire. And in sympathy with all British Canadians it has always endeavored to bring closer the ties of interest, without in any way loosening those of mutual good feeling. In fact, our aim has always been the unity of the Empire for the commer-

cial and industrial development and prosperity of its several portions.

Wholly and deeply devoted to the only country, which we claim is our only home, this Canada of ours, we French Canadians, glory in our ancestors, and proudly proclaim ourselves the offspring of la belle France, although at one time we had been forsaken by her. But we also pride ourselves in having always been true and faithful to the British flag, always performing our duty, and on some occasions fulfilling more than our obligations. (Cheers.)

The members of La Chambre de Commerce, whilst endeavoring to further the ties of interests so as to bring the colonies together within the Empire, never lost sight of the fact that although one within the Empire, colonies require to be quite distinct, one from the other, with no solidarity existing between them. In fact, who would be heard to say that the wants of the people, as well as any expenditure incurred by Great Britain in the east, can in some way concern those of the west.

Moreover, although we may rejoice in the expansion of the Empire, still you will understand that prudence warns us against undefined obligations.

At the same time of what avail can be such statements as those made by the Honorable C. T. Ritchie, in the British House of Commons, when he said: "I regret very much indeed that Canada does not contribute anything at all to the Empire, and I suppose no part of it derives more benefit than Canada from the expenditure we have incurred in connection with the Army and Navy."

Why, on the contrary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer should feel duly bound to acknowledge that Canada, far from being a burden has been and is still a source of revenue and profit, annually remitting, as she does, about twenty millions of dollars in freights and interest.

Why also pretend that Canada does not contribute anything at all to the Empire?

Has not Canada, notwithstanding its limited means and small population, built the Esquimaux fortifications, constructed the Intercolonial and Canadian Pacific Railways, connected through canals its inland seas with the ocean, thus offering Great Britain a safe and direct military route, with coaling and revictualling stations across the continent as well as uninterrupted means of transport around the world on British possessions?

Canada thus not only offers Great Britain an invaluable strategic route, but also, by opening that vast Canadian region that made a home for our actual six million inhabitants, with possibilities for twenty times as many, and laid the foundation of the Empire's granary.

Whilst performing that great work of civilization Canada had occasion to prove its devotedness and loyalty to the British Crown. Allow me, without overlooking the American invasion of 1775, to remind you of our ancestors heroism, and recall more particularly the agitated period of 1812, when bravery and energy alone preserved to Great Britain the greatest and most valuable jewel in the British Crown. And amongst hundreds of glorious and illustrious exploits let us recollect those achieved, not only in Lower Canada by a De Salaberry who, with his 300 men, so gallantly renewed the Thermopylae feat at the battle of Chateauguay, but also in Upper Canada by a Brock, another hero who, at the extra session of the legislature in July, 1812, spoke out these clear and earnest words: "We are engaged in an awful and eventful contest. By unanimity and despatch in our councils, and vigor in our operations, we may teach the enemy this lesson, that a country defended by free men enthusiastically



devoted to the cause of their King and constitution, can never be conquered," words, which can partly be appropriated to Canada's perfect situation and which have been so efficacious in their time, that the consequences have proved equal to the dispatch and bravery of those who thus have helped to save Canada to Great Britain. Later, in 1867 and 1870, face to face with an attack undoubtedly intended only against England, Canada anew faithfully performed its duty towards the British Crown, in checking, with its own men and money the Fenian raiders.

La Chambre de Commerce, as one of the representatives of the commercial and industrial interests of the Dominion, and voicing the opinion of the French Canadians and two-thirds of the remaining population, favors much closer union, in sympathy with the formal declarations of the Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, who readily admitted that it would not have its "raison d'être" without an express desire from the colonies, and who also said during his African tour: "That Downing street interference could not be feared, as the good sense of the British people would never tolerate interference with a colony to which they had conceded the fullest measure of self-government."

However, I trust you will also value the utterance of some of the most eminent political men of the British Empire, Lord Salisbury, Hon. Mr. Barton and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who have acknowledged the opportunity, as well as the serious dangers threatening Great Britain in any attempt to draw its colonies into the "vortex of European militarism." On the other hand, the colonies have clearly made known their individual views, and in so far as Canada is concerned, we are of opinion that nothing has occurred to justify any departure from the so-well expressed policy of our Honourable Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the Colonial Conference in 1902.

I conclude by saying that although La Chambre de Commerce is convinced that it is not at present expedient to further burden our Canadian budget, as we need all our revenues for the development of our immense natural wealth and resources, as well as for a more rapid increase in the population, still it holds that Canada will always do all that the situation may demand for the prestige and strength of the British Empire, should its interests on this continent ever be menaced. In some future momentous crisis, we hope to see realized the memorable words of Sir Etienne Pascal Tache, one of our most prominent statesmen: "le dernier coup de canon tiré pour la défense du drapeau britannique sur cette terre d'Amérique, le sera par un canadien-français"—in other words:—"The last shot fired in America for defence of the British flag, will be fired by a French Canadian." (Applause.)

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, in thanking you for your kind attention it is my pleasant duty, as President of La Chambre de Commerce du district de Montréal, to wish our distinguished visitors a most pleasant journey across our wonderful continent. I hope that, favorably impressed with Canada's great possibilities and resources, they will convey to their friends and capitalists our sincere desire to strengthen in a moral as in a material point of view, the bonds that unite the Empire, without altering our present constitution. And more so bring them the assurance that all British Canadian subjects, irrespective of creed and nationality, French Canadian especially, are now as in the past, always prepared to work hand in hand without coercion or written law, so as to keep pace with the requirements of the occasion, and co-operate in the fraternal and indispensable work of maintaining British trade in British hands.

Mr. H. A. A. BRAULT (La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montréal) seconded the amendment. He said:—

The time allowed each one to deal with the important subject of the defence of the Empire, is too limited to permit of a full discussion. We can, therefore, but simply mention, in a brief manner, without going into details, a few of the principal arguments called for by the debate. First of all, I hasten to quote the views of the Chambre de Commerce du district de Montréal, as expressed especially at the London Congress held in June, 1900, when that question of the defence of the Empire was brought up:—

"While on the foregoing questions this Chambre, acting within its jurisdiction, has made certain declarations of principle, rendered easy by its desire to extend as much as possible the commercial relations between England and Canada, it may be allowed to respectfully express its views as to the want of proper reasons on the part of the Board of Trade to discuss a point so little connected with matters of commerce, in no way resulting therefrom, and which no person in this Congress is in a position to sustain with authority or by virtue of a mandate. To those elected by the people, to those entrusted with the representation of the nation and having a mandate ad hoc, to those alone belongs the discussion of this subject, for it affects the vital principle of the political constitution of each of our countries.

"Is it not indiscretion on the part of private corporations that trade interests alone call together, to take this opportunity, outside of any invitation coming from headquarters, that is to say from the British Crown or from the nation, to consider this question, which will call for expressions, loyal no doubt, but contradictory, and the echo of which may be more prejudicial than useful to the end aimed at? Besides, is it not extravagant to unite commercial considerations with obligations of the nature of those implied in this proposal?"

That language again finds its place here. It finds its place, I say, because the moral, social and commercial conditions of all the Colonies seem to me identical on that question of the defence of the Empire. In short, there is the more reason to invoke that language from the fact that Lord Salisbury, the famous and far-sighted statesman, when he, as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, replying to Mr. Kenric B. Murray, Secretary of the Chamber of London, who, at one time requested an expression of opinion on the subject, and then again asked to have a deputation heard on the same question, sent the following official intimation: "In reply, His Lordship says that he does not think the moment opportune for discussing a very difficult question," and again: "That the present time is not an opportune one for such a deputation."

As regards we Canadians, can we not also be actuated by the positively categorical declarations made in the House of Commons during the present session, by the Honourable Prime Minister of Canada, as regards the defence of the Empire by means of engagements other than those dictated by circumstances and duty. Can we not, I say, be thus actuated to find inopportune the discussion of a political issue at this meeting, when the ostensible object of our gathering is to discuss commercial interests, mutually advantageous to the Empire and the colonies, and when really no connection can be found between the question of mutual and convenient relations throughout the Empire and the question of the defence of the same Empire. If those objections do not stand good, if we must by all means discuss that article of the programme, and thereby supersede all competent authorities and run the risk of working at this meeting for the advantage of persons

whose impulse can only be fatal to all the parties interested, than I will respectfully, but firmly speak out my mind:—

Imperialism is father to the idea of the defence of the Empire by the Colonies, and sentimentalism and Chauvinism are brothers of Imperialism. That trinity constitutes a dogma which admits of no discussion, and many who are interested in imposing the same, go a step further and call "Little Englanders," renegades and traitors, the men who understand otherwise than themselves the greatness and interest of their country. Let none of those persons paralyze our mind.

We have here, Mr. President and gentlemen, the representatives of Imperialism? Can I fairly classify them among the members of that uneasy group who, leaving aside their right of enquiry, their responsibility as citizens, the innate feeling of preservation, and the heroic and majestic idea of the great destinies reserved for their country, are disposed, some through sentimentalism, or a spirit of chivalry, others through selfishness or want of thought, to bind themselves, by contract in valid and due form, to fight unjustly perhaps, but anyhow to fight, at all events their neighbors and even their own relatives. Let us speak more plainly: We have those who are disposed to virtually give a general and special proxy to make good the national inheritance which God has entrusted to our vigorous and energetic youth, or to join henceforth and forever with Great Britain in the attack of whomsoever she may wish to attack, and in the defence of whomsoever she may wish to defend. No, gentlemen, such is not my belief. The question of Imperialism, represented by a request to come to the help of the Empire, by contributing to its defence, is brought up here in a speculative and theoretical point of view only. It is brought up here simply to furnish an opportunity to present a final correct statement of what we have received from the Mother Country and of what we have given her. It is with a view to further exalt that Mother Country in the eyes of the world, and not to compare her with Rome that fought her wars with the money and blood of her colonies; finally, it is with a view that all should take advantage of this occasion, when her own representatives and the representatives of her flourishing colonies are assembled to express once more their feelings towards her, it is in that view that the statement which I wish to analyze will be glorious for all the contracting parties. It is a mother who said to a few of her sons:—"Get away from the emanations of old Europe. We alone here on our island enjoy complete liberty but the place is small, go children, and populate the distant shores of the new world, from north to south and from east to west. Let each swarm grow up and prosper. To your land you will invite other races worthy of you—and you shall respect those already in possession of the soil whom treaties or war shall have placed under my domination. I am far away from you but my solicitude shall not be wanting. Your infancy will be short, for everything grows quick yonder. Soon the world will be astonished at your progress in sciences, arts, agriculture, commerce, and more especially the manner of governing yourselves which will deserve for you on my part the inherent right of making your treaties with foreign countries, and even your right of discussing with me your material interests. In fact, at that moment you will be free and you will constitute a nation. Beware and do not then listen to any one who might in the name of my authority exact from you written material guarantees in exchange for my gifts, for if I am jealous of my liberty I also wish to find it with you, as I consider that the ties of gratitude are stronger than agreements which shed their leaves by the repeated discussion of the arguments that brought them up. Let us say rather, that, in recognition of my kindness and good

wishes, you will keep an affectionate remembrance of me, and, proud and satisfied to see you pursue your glorious career which Providence forbids me to impede, I shall declare that justice and civilisation have through my children reached beyond the seas—that you have sufficiently rendered my name illustrious, and that, in the hour of danger in no way called forth by me, without coercion and without any written law, your allegiance, whether or not then under my domination, will join with my own legions to put down the foolish and rash enemy of justice and right."

That is what the Mother Country has done for us who live in her colonies. That is also what has been her wish. Her conduct towards us has always been maternal. Acquainted with the painful experience which ill advised rulers brought upon her, she modified her views in the Government of her new colonies and reigned therein like a mother and not like a step-mother, making it well understood that when the inevitable hour of separation would come, the heart of her full grown-up children would be worth a treasure for her. Watchful and astonished at such magnanimity the world will applaud when that solemn hour comes.

But do we deserve all these favors?

The loyalty of the people of the colonies, ideal with some, reason with others, has produced unexpected and I will even say mysterious results. See that gathering of people from the four corners of the world, and different in their nationality, religion and language, they come to populate new worlds. Shall they keep in mind the old disputes and bloody wars fought by them and their fathers? The French and Anglo-Saxon, who were the first to come here, and whose destiny it is to live harmoniously together, are a guarantee that peace will reign elsewhere also, and that everywhere the feeling of liberties granted must be required. As a result of the liberality of the Mother Country she gets a worship or a blind or reasoned self devotion such as is unprecedented in history. It was only yesterday when neither gold nor blood were spared, and this without coercion and without written law. To secure peace for the Mother Country and to facilitate her material advancement the colonies will not hesitate to make any sacrifice. Whether it be boundaries which equity should preserve for us, and of which we are deprived, or gigantic works almost out of proportion to our means, or a reduction of the tariff in her favor, Canada and the other colonies, whatever may be the object or desire are ever prompt to show their unalterable good will, without coercion and without any written law, gladly, and in a sufficient measure we contribute thereby to the greatness and power of the Motherland.

Therefore, if I consult my intellect and judgment, in vain do I ask why the existing conditions that govern our relations with the Mother Country should be modified.

I do not find a single point that can be seriously discussed. On the contrary, I find in that view of the compulsory defence of the Empire which implies Imperialism with all its consequences, besides the acknowledgment of a bending tribute, a world of uneasiness, suspicions, pretences, recriminations, and acrimonies, and our voice silenced in a confused mass of different interests. Of all things that will probably be the cause of a premature breaking off, fatal to the contracting parties. I find that we will have violated our constitution, overturned our budget, and gone outside, seeking reprisals and dangerous and perilous adventures calculated to ruin our aspirations and compromise the resources we should utilize for the growth of our country and for its own defence. Had I sufficient time I would substantiate all these views.

In a word, we rather have what we possess and what the future has in store for us than what we are pro-

mised, and, therefore, I have the honor to support the resolution of the *Chambre de Commerce* of the District of Montreal.

MR. CHARLES LANCASTER, (Liverpool Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): My Lord and Gentlemen: It is with a view of getting an early vote upon this highly interesting subject that it has been suggested from the Chair, that with regard to this resolution of the Montreal Chamber and the resolution of the French Canadian Chamber, both bearing somewhat the appearance of possessing a political rather than a commercial character, the movers and seconders of both these resolutions should, during the luncheon hour, come together, and there might be a possibility of adopting the sentiments contained in both these resolutions by a consolidation in this form.

"That in the opinion of this Congress the various colonies should contribute to the expense of Imperial defence, the colonies claiming the privilege of adopting their own initiative as to the nature and mode of help which they can agree to offer in future to the British Empire."

That, gentlemen, appears to a good many of the influential members of the London Chamber and to others at this table to be a sensible mode of dealing with the two resolutions which, if pursued to their own extremity in the terms in which they are at present, might possibly give rise to a very much regretted difference of opinion. (Applause.) Whereas, if the sentiment of both resolutions is contained, as is suggested from the Chair, in the wording suggested, it will have the desired effect.

I do not understand, My Lord, that it is intended at this moment to do more than throw out this suggestion coming from the Chamber I represent for the consideration of the delegates during the luncheon time, and for the consideration of the movers and seconders of the two motions—the amendment and the resolution—if they will confer during the recess, perhaps they can arrive at some understanding.

COLONEL DENISON (Toronto Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I am glad to say, thanks to the strong loyal feeling of our Montreal men, as well as to our own, that the question which we are now discussing has been thought out, that we have had a word or two together, and we have come to an understanding. (Hear, hear.) As has been said in 1812, the ancestors of our French friends fought together with my own forefathers, side by side, in defence of British interests on this continent, and it is the same spirit which exists to-day, and I have no doubt which will exist throughout the future.

Therefore, I will move, seconded by my friend, Mr. Masson, of the Montreal Chamber, the following in substitution for the first resolution moved by Mr. Drummond:—

It is resolved "That this Congress hereby affirms the principle that it is the duty of the self-governing colonies to participate in the cost of the defence of the Empire,—but the colonies claim the privilege of keeping their own initiative as to the nature and help which they agree to offer."

I think that by compromising on the two resolutions the first part of the Montreal Board of Trade and the latter part of the Chamber of Commerce it will cover the whole question. (Applause.)

MR. MASSON: I second the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion, gentlemen, is: It is resolved that this Congress hereby affirms the principle, that it is the duty of the self-governing colonies to participate in the cost of the defence of the Empire; but the colonies claim the privilege of keeping their own initiative as to the nature and mode of help which they may agree to offer.

MR. DRUMMOND (Montreal Board of Trade): My Lord President, I will support that resolution to the fullest degree. If there is one thing we want in Canada, it is unity. (Hear, hear, and applause.) We may differ in our opinions occasionally, but if the gentlemen who moved the amendment to my resolution will permit me to join him, or if he will join me, in giving the heartiest kind of approval to the resolution which Col. Denison has put forward in amended form, I will ask all present to rise and sing God Save the King. (Applause.)

The National Anthem was here enthusiastically sung and followed by cheers.

THE CHAIRMAN: I congratulate the Congress on having carried so important a resolution by acclamation. (Applause.)

To descend to a lower plane, I wish to inform you that it has been decided to give an opportunity to the British and Colonial Delegates to meet socially. The adjournment for lunch will be for two hours, namely from 12.30 to 2.30 daily until further notice, but as we have now got to one o'clock, we will adjourn till three, in order to give you two hours for refreshment and friendly intercourse. This afternoon the chair will be taken by General Lanrie.

MR. E. J. GILLESPIE (London: Mr. Chairman, I regret that there has been a slight misunderstanding as to the hour for the meeting of the committee over which I have the honour to preside. I beg to give notice to the movers and seconders of the Canadian and English resolutions, that we shall meet at three o'clock in committee room No. 2. This notice is intended for the ten Canadian delegates and the London and Manchester delegates. I shall have the honour of taking the chair. I might add that we hope to arrive at some solution whereby we may be able to harmonize the resolutions presented by the delegates from Great Britain and Canada.

The Congress adjourned for lunch.

On resuming,

GENERAL LAURIE (London, England, Chamber of Commerce) took the chair and opened the proceedings as follows:—

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen: I will beg you to take your seats and to give an opportunity to the speakers to be heard. You know it is very easy to charge the building with having bad acoustic properties, if everybody talks while a speaker is speaking. I don't think you can blame the building altogether, but at the same time I believe the acoustic properties are bad, and we are going to try an experiment—we are told that by a speaker speaking from the end of the table he will be better heard. We will try that experiment, and if that fails we will ask you to go and speak from the other chair in the centre of the room, and then if that fails we will to-morrow morning have a platform there—that is another device we have—and see if the speaker can be heard in that way. We will try experiments—after all, that is what the Congress is for. I want first of all to advise you that the first twelve resolutions, as you are aware, were postponed till to-morrow afternoon, in order that those moving them might consider whether we could abbreviate the business by modifying or even omitting one or two of the resolutions. For that purpose a meeting is being held in committee room Number 2, and movers and seconders of the twelve resolutions that appear first on the paper are asked to meet there under the Presidency of Mr. Gillespie, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the London Chamber of Com-

meres. That will give an opportunity perhaps to bring our business more into shape.

Then I am asked also to call your attention to the fact and you will find it on the agenda paper, rule 5:—“The Organization Committee recommend that the openers of subjects should be allowed from twenty to thirty minutes, and subsequent speakers from ten to fifteen minutes each.” Well, it is my idea—I don’t know whether it fully meets with your approval, but I would suggest that the openers of subjects should be allowed twenty minutes each and subsequent speakers not more than ten. (Hear, hear)

But I think it is only fair that where a resolution is brought forward as an amendment to the resolution appearing on the paper—that is, where one resolution is moved as an amendment to another—that it should be recognized that the mover of the amendment, which is really a resolution should be allowed the full time of the opener. (Hear, hear).

I think that is reasonable and I am sure you will all approve of it, therefore I have asked Mr. Murray to take out his watch and to ring the bell in every case two minutes before the time that is allowed to each speaker has elapsed. That will give each speaker an opportunity to wind up his remarks. I think it would be a little unfair to ring the bell and request him to take his seat because he might be even right in the middle of a sentence, and according to the German idea, the point might be at the end of it, and therefore he will have two minutes to wind up his remarks. (Laughter). I would request that the gentlemen do not hesitate to acquaint the Chair with the fact if they are unable to hear the speakers, because we are here for the purpose of hearing the speakers, not for the purpose of sitting and conversing with one another, however pleasant that may be, but we are here to hear the speakers and their views, and therefore if a speaker is not making himself heard, please let the Chair know at once and we will try and make the best arrangement we can that you shall all hear.

Now, we have proceeded and dealt with resolutions thirteen, fourteen and fifteen, at least I presume 14 was considered to be dealt from a sentimental standpoint, although there is much that might be said upon the sentimental aspect of the question, but I shall deal with it from the practical side as it appears to me to affect the Colonies as a whole and Canada in particular.

#### BRITISH CAPITAL AND EMIGRATION FOR THE COLONIES.

MR. CYRUS BIRCH (Hamilton, Canada): The resolution which I wish to introduce and beg now to move is as follows:—

“That in the interests of the British Empire, and particularly in the interest of the Motherland, measures should be adopted which would direct British capital and emigration to the Colonies rather than to foreign countries.”

I am well aware, sir, and gentlemen that capital is a very sensitive thing, and I believe British capital to be quite as sensitive as any, and not without reason, for it has had its share of experience in being experimented upon by financial sharks who had something worthless to offer from some one or other of the colonies, but which they were able to clothe in such attractive garb and surround with such promise that the “very elect” have been deceived. I am well aware too, sir, that when capital gets into the habit of following along certain lines or directions, that it is difficult to divert it or its owners into new channels, unless they can be shown something very attractive in the way of investments. This I have no hesitation in saying the Colonies of the Empire can do to as great or even greater extent than can any foreign country, particularly when the element of safety is considered. It is not my intention

to speak for any of the other colonies, as their representatives will look after them, but I do wish to emphasize the advantages of Canada, for I know something of them. We have in the Dominion a territory stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and covering an area of 3,745,574 square miles, or 33.79 per cent., or over one-third of the area of the whole British Empire. This vast area of country affords a wonderful scope for investment in the development of its immense resources of mineral, agricultural, industrial and marine wealth.

There is scarcely a province in the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but which has immense mineral resources of one kind or another, in gold, silver, nickel, aluminum, iron, coal, asbestos, etc., and the wealth of timber in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia is enormous.

Not one of the provinces but has a vast acreage of the finest agricultural lands that ever God’s sun shone upon.

In the older provinces, particularly in Ontario and Quebec, industrial or manufacturing enterprise has attained a high plane in the ranks of the manufacturers of the world, and capital to the extent of probably 700 millions of dollars is invested in this branch of Canada’s enterprises with room for millions more.

And what I have said in reference to the older provinces in respect of manufactures, will apply to the newer provinces in the near future. The North-West provinces will be the sources of manufacturing industry. On the extreme east and in the extreme west, in the Territories, and in British Columbia, we have a large source of revenue in the sea fisheries, combined with the fisheries on the inland rivers and lakes. We have there enormous resources, with any amount of room for the same enterprise shown in the fisheries I have mentioned, the inland lakes and rivers. I have not the time to go into details in connection with any of these great resources, but only to say that in mining, agriculture and manufactures they cover a wide range of products, and after supplying our own requirements in this wide range, we exported last year goods and products to the extent of \$211,640,286, products of the factory, the fishery and the farm, while we imported goods to the value of \$217,270,158.00. And this with a population of 5,371,315 people. Surely, sir, in a country that can accomplish this with such a comparatively small population there is opportunity, tremendous opportunity for the investment of British capital in such a way that it need not be sensitive, or fear for its safety, and where it is assured of a handsome return. (Hear, hear).

Now, sir, I have touched briefly on the resources of this magnificent country and the need for capital, and the opportunity for the British investor to supply it for the development of these splendid resources, and thus bind this country as the Mother Country more closely together. (Cheers). And let me say in passing that our neighbors to the south of us, the United States, are already alive to our advantages here, and are even freely pouring capital into this country. I say that while I have touched briefly on our resources and our need of capital for further development, we have another equally strong or stronger need, and that is population. I said a little while ago that we had an area of 3,745,574 square miles, or a little more than one-third of the area of the whole Empire. We had at the last census in 1901, a population of 5,371,315. What does that mean? It means that we have only 1.5 persons to every square mile of territory, while the United Kingdom has 343 persons to the square mile, and England and Wales has 558. Now, sir, what does that mean? It means that you are over-



crowded and have population to spare, and that we have room for them. And where should the British subject go when emigrating from his home land but to another part of the Empire, particularly if his opportunities are as good or better than in a foreign country. (Hear, hear).

During the years from 1884 to 1901, the emigration from Great Britain and Ireland was 1,768,150. Of these 1,065,728 or 60 per cent. went to the United States, and 188,209 or 10.6 per cent. came to the North American colonies, presumably most of them to Canada, and the remaining 29 per cent. went to the other colonies and other countries.

But, sir, while British subjects are emigrating to the United States, the United States people are, as I said a little while ago, alive to the great opportunities that are in Canada, and are sending us some of the best among their agricultural and industrial workers to take advantage of the great possibilities opening up in the development here. Just note these figures. In five years, ending in 1902, the emigration into Canada from Great Britain and the United States respectively was as follows: In 1898, from Great Britain and Ireland, 11,608, and from the United States, 9,119; in 1899, from Great Britain and Ireland, 10,660, and from the United States, 11,945; in 1900, 5,141 from Great Britain and 8,543 from the United States; in 1901, 11,810 from Great Britain and 17,987 from the United States; in 1902, 17,259 from Great Britain and 26,388 from the United States, or a total in the five years of 56,478 from Great Britain and Ireland, and 73,982 from the United States, or 16,504 more from the United States than from Britain in this period. This year the emigration into Canada from the United States will far exceed that of last year. We want them, all we can get of them, but will want the surplus capital and the surplus population of the Motherland, in the interest of the Motherland and of the Empire, and we do not want it for nothing. We want you to have what it can surely bring and that is the splendid financial returns for invested capital and splendid return on brain, brawn and muscle of your surplus population to come to us, and through these two grand results in building up the colonies, and making the greatest Empire and the freest people the world has yet produced. (Cheers.) Mr. Chairman, I move the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: I would now ask who will second this resolution, whether it will be done on behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, or on behalf of the Toronto Board of Trade, who have brought in a resolution much the same, but considerably amplifying the first. It would be well if they were both included in one, but in any case the Canadian Manufacturers' Association resolution No. 17 is now before you and waits for a seconder.

LIEUT.-COLONEL W. N. PONTON (Belleville, Ontario): In seconding the motion I do so because I see that no one appears to be ready, and I believe always in speaking in time, so as not to delay the proceedings. I have just two ideas. One is this, that the resources of the British Empire are not in what have been spoken of in the shape of trade and commerce and the woods and forests and minerals of Canada, not in these things, nor in agricultural products alone are the true resources of the Empire. We believe her true resources to be in the manhood of Great Britain and of every part of the Empire. And I believe it would be well if we could get our British brothers to come to feel the true spirit of Greater Britain, and not of Great Britain and the Colonies. Everyone speaks of British and Canadian delegates of the Chambers of Commerce, but Canadian delegates are as much British as the others. (Applause.) I wish

those who have come from the heart of the Empire, from where perhaps the heart is throbbing, to feel that it is throbbing through the pulses, to feel the touch of British brotherhood and to know that we in these lands are Empire builders all the more because the Empire must be built on the confines and at the circumference. I feel that what has been said freely from the manufacturer's point of view, can be said also from the farmer's point of view; because the manufacturers, those who deal in machinery in Canada, and the goods which the machinery produces for the supply of human wants, are not the only manufacturers. The agricultural claim has also to be considered, and much the larger percentage of manufactures and the employment of human labour is agricultural. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. You see excursionists going by the thousands to labor in the west, and every effort is being made to secure a population for the Great North-West, but at the same time Ontario is being to a certain extent, forgotten. The rich gardens and fields of Ontario are going partly uncultivated for the want of farm laborers. That is a fact. I am a farmer as well as a professional man, and I know. I can point to the whole district of the Bay of Quinte and there are other districts which tell exactly the same story. The soil is rich and the products are abundant, but there is not the laborer. And yet we have to meet circulars distributed by so-called labor apostles, really labor agitators stating that no more men are required, that our house is full. We have the harvest fields which are just crying out for laborers, and these would be doubled, trebled, quadrupled in acreage if there were more laborers to do justice to-day to our soil.

Not merely has the farmer's standpoint to be considered, and not merely must be look at the financial aspect. The silken chain of commerce that binds us together means a community of interest. There is also the community of friendship, the silver thread of sentiment as well as the silver thread of commerce. That sentiment can be inculcated. If you will pardon me for saying so, the United States representatives are found everywhere in Canada and they are doing their best, not exactly to check the tide of immigration from their country to Canada, but to point out in every city and every little village in this country, the advantages of emigration to the United States. While the rosy side of the story is always pleasant as has been so well set forth in the figures produced by Mr. Birge, there is another side, and that is that a great many young Canadians find their future home on the other side of the border to the South of us. But while this is true, I believe that they largely retain their nationality—that a large percentage of them never take out their naturalization papers. As conditions have improved in Canada, many of them have come back again to take an advantage of those better opportunities. A large proportion of those now coming from the United States are Canadian born, they are coming back again to the land of their birth of which we and they are so justly proud. (Cheers.)

GENERAL LAURIE (Chairman): Gentlemen, you have now before you Resolution 17, which has been moved and seconded. I shall be happy to hear from any speakers who desire to express their view. No names have been sent up in connection with it.

MR. D. R. WILKIE, of the Toronto Board of Trade: The only exception I have to this proposed resolution is the last few words "which would direct British capital and emigration to the Colonies rather than to foreign countries." It would appear from this that efforts are being made to direct British capital and emigration to foreign countries. I don't think that implication is intended. I should be inclined to think that these latter words "rather than to foreign coun-

tries" should be struck out. They would infer that efforts are being made to direct emigration from Great Britain to foreign countries and I don't think that is exactly the case. I think it would be sufficient to leave out those words. However it is merely a suggestion and I am not going to push it.

GENERAL LAURIE: Do I understand that the mover desires to withdraw the latter part of his motion.

MR. BIRGE: No.

GENERAL LAURIE: Well, then, no amendment has been moved.

MR. EWING MATHESON, of Leeds Incorporated Chamber of Commerce: Before the motion is adopted I would like to ask a question. It is rather difficult to understand just what means should be adopted in order to promote emigration. What are the new measures proposed?

GENERAL LAURIE: Do you wish to answer the gentleman who makes the enquiry?

MR. BIRGE: I scarcely heard the inquiry, but as far as I could gather it was that we should make some suggestion as to what means should be adopted to bring about the desired effect. I do not know that we have any particular suggestions along that line. Our main object is to put before you as representing the people of Great Britain the immense possibilities that there are in this country. We know that there is an immense work to be done and this discussion we regard as one of the means by which it may help to be accomplished.

GENERAL LAURIE: All I asked was whether you are prepared to meet the suggestion of the gentleman from Leeds. You are going over the old ground again and showing that labor is still required there. That, I think, the meeting accepts. You are simply pointing out the need.

MR. BIRGE: We are pointing out the advantages. We have no recommendation to make.

GENERAL LAURIE: If you are prepared to suggest any measures we shall be happy to hear them.

LIEUT.-COL. W. N. PONTON: Give us national support, namely, the support of our second transcontinental railway, the Grand Trunk Pacific.

GENERAL LAURIE: I think that is rather before the Parliament at Ottawa, and, therefore, it is a political question, which we should not desire to take part in. When it comes up will be time to discuss it.

The motion was then put to the vote and was declared unanimously carried.

#### FOOD SUPPLY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

COL. DENISON (Toronto Board of Trade), moved the following:—

Whereas, "The assurance of a constant and ample supply of food to the citizens of the United Kingdom in both peace and war, is a matter of the first importance for the security of the Empire:

It is Resolved "That in the opinion of this Congress the food supply of Great Britain can be most safely relied upon, by developing the output of her own territories to such an extent as to make her independent of supplies from foreign sources, and that to best achieve this end it is most desirable and necessary to divert, as far as possible, all of her able bodied surplus population who will make useful citizens to the shores of her dominions beyond the seas."

The resolution which I have the honor to move is one that should properly have been headed "Food Supply." It has been put under the head of immigration to the colonies, because there is something to be said about that. We of the Toronto Board of Trade, in common with most of our fellow citizens in Canada, are exceedingly uneasy and dissatisfied at the present condition of the food supply of the Mother Country. We know if anything happened to destroy the Mo-

ther Country that we ourselves must also go down in the general ruin that would ensue to the Empire. (Hear, hear.)

I want to draw your attention to the condition, past and present, of the food supply of Great Britain. From 1697 to 1766 she exported wheat; from 1766 to 1800 there was a small volume of imports over and above exports; from 1800 to 1813, during the Napoleonic wars, the imports averaged 575,000 quarters per annum. When we come to the time of the Crimean war, we find the amount grown in the British Isles was 17,563,000 quarters, and the amount imported a little under 3,000,000 quarters. In 1902, last year, all that was grown in the Mother Country was 6,270,000 quarters for consumption. The imports from foreign countries amounted to 17,458,095 quarters, and from British possessions to only 6,000,000. Consider what that means. Of the 17,500,000 from foreign countries, 13,750,000 quarters came from the United States alone. Think of that; 46 per cent. of the total consumption came from the United States. In other words, the United Kingdom furnished eleven weeks' supply in the whole year, the colonies supplied ten and a half weeks, the foreigner thirty and a half weeks, and of that the United States furnished food for twenty-four weeks.

During the Crimean war 17,563,140 were grown in the British Isles, and less than 3,000,000 were imported, and yet in the year 1854-55 the price rose in one year from 38 shillings to 74 shillings a quarter, nearly double. What can any one imagine would be the cost to-day in time of war with 23,500,000 quarters imported and 6,270,000 grown, when you consider that during the Crimean war we had undoubted command of the sea. To-day we do not know whether we would have or not. We know also that the supply in the time of the Crimean war mainly came from Russia, but now it comes from the United States, Canada, Russia, Turkey, Roumania, Bulgaria, Argentina, Australia; indeed, everywhere, all over the world. I want to ask you if the increase in the price of wheat, when only 3,000,000 out of 20,000,000 were imported from abroad, if it went up in time of war to double, what would it be with this increased consumption and so many sea routes, so extended and divergent. No one can tell how many warships it would take to guard it. Even in the ordinary circumstances of the case, because of the simple fact of carrying wheat under the dangers of war, the price would rise to an enormous amount.

I want to draw attention to one important danger; it is a danger we ought to use every effort to put a stop to. Suppose, for instance, we had war with the United States, which, God forbid, but it may not be impossible—I tell you it is more possible if we were in their power than if we were independent of them. Suppose we were at war, what would be the result? I have asked this question in England; I discussed it there in 1897, and told them the danger and said something should be done. I was told in the War Office it had been thought of, and they had got a report, and they said: "all we want is the absolute uncontrolled command of the sea, and we can get all we want, but we will have to pay a little more money." I saw some officers of the Board of Trade and found they expected, if they had absolute command of the sea, to allow the stuff to be taken out of the United States in neutral bottoms and to neutral ports, and imported into England. Can you imagine the officers of a great nation resting the security of an Empire upon such a futile idea. If we had a war with the United States and had the command of the sea, what weapon would the United States have? None, except they would command the food while England commanded the sea, and they would put an embargo on.

You will remember, gentlemen, that they export a great deal of food products to the continent as well as to

England. You get a certain amount of hutter and flour from the continent into England and in case of war that would be stopped. There would be an embargo in every single country. They are not going to let their own people starve for the sake of feeding you. Immediately the whole question of trade principles would be upset and war would take control, and you would not be able to get the food.

Now the point of the thing is this. I hold that to-day our Empire is neither a free nor an independent power. We are living on the forbearance of other nations. We are existing amongst hostile nations and our Empire cannot be considered either a free or an independent Empire if we depend on our food from people who may be our possible enemies. (Applause.) That is no position for a great nation to be in, and no question of a dear loaf or a cheap loaf, should cause any Englishman with any feeling for his nation to consider it for a moment when there is a question of national humiliation and national disaster and no loaf at all.

Now that is the issue before you. You may try to shirk it or wink at it, or put it aside, but that is where it is to-day—one or two nations against you with an embargo on food and you are helpless.

Let us consider what we can do about it. There are different remedies, but the best remedy of all is to grow more wheat in England. (Hear, hear.) Grow every hushel that can be grown in the Mother Country free from the dangers of sea transportation and safe at home among your own people.

The next best thing is to have it grown under your own flag, among your own people—(cheers)—among a hardy population ready and willing to fight for you and by doing so you will benefit the Empire as a whole. That is what you want and that is the only thing that can be done now. It may be said that you cannot grow wheat in England. Well, in reply to that I have only to say that during the Crimean war you grew 17,000,000 quarters in England. You grow 6,270,000 to-day. Now, if you can grow 6,270,000 and make it pay you, the margin between that and the extra few millions is very small, and it requires but a very small amount of encouragement to your people to grow an extra ten millions in England, and you can grow the balance in Canada. I may now speak a little for my own country, only this does not affect us so much except as it is in the interest of the Empire which we have at heart. We are not afraid to fight if there is a war, we are not afraid to defend our own country in case of necessity, our fathers did it years ago when the odds were ten times as great against them and we are not afraid of trying it again. (Hear, hear.)

Canada has the largest area of the best wheat growing land in the whole world. We are the nearest to Great Britain, we have a sea road which is the safest the best sea road to Great Britain from any part of the world. It is guarded on the north by the Arctic Ocean, there is no possible attack to come from the north. On the south, how is it guarded? Well, it is guarded on the south by the naval and coaling stations of Halifax and St. Johns and Sydney and Berhavan and Milford Haven and Plymouth and Portsmouth, past which the hostile fleet has to come before it can attempt to interfere.

Then again, it is far removed from the nearest foreign or hostile naval posts. It is so far removed, in fact, that a little more would make it beyond the striking power of a war ship.

Therefore, it is the safest place in which you can possibly grow your wheat.

Now, if there was a small duty of four shillings a quarter in favor of home grown, and two shillings a

quarter in favor of colonial wheat, I believe you would grow the ten million quarters more in England, and with two shillings to influence the people leaving England, you would have them settled on this side of the water instead of going out of your country and settling in the United States. They would rather come to their own country and settle under their own flag, where they would get this advantage of British safety and British influence. You would have them come and help feed the British people. (Applause.)

I just want to say a few words more before I finish, and that is, that if it cost you four or two shillings, I do not believe that it would make very much difference, which. It need not be more than two shillings a quarter and that would make £3,000,000 per annum. Yet you tax tobacco ten and half million pounds; tea, five and three-quarter millions; beer and spirits, thirty millions; all of these your working people use and have to pay for. By making a reduction in the one and putting it on to the wheat it could not make any difference in the living expenses of any man who works in England. But, suppose it costs—suppose the difference to be in hard cash to the extent of £3,000,000, what are you doing to-day? Well, your expenditure for this year is £100,000,000 on defence. Do you expect war or not? If you do not expect war that one hundred million pounds is wasted, and if you expect war that hundred million pounds may be wasted also because you are leaving your food supply out of your calculation. Now, if you pay £103,000,000, which is not very much over one hundred millions, which is not a terrible increase, you could make it safe while the £100,000,000 is wasted. (Hear, hear.)

What I hope is that the resolution will be passed, and in order to secure a continuity of food supply within the territories of the British Empire, steps ought to be taken to encourage emigration to the colonies.

I will make a suggestion—put up your duty and the emigration will follow. Put your duty on and the people will come to your flag and they will grow the grain in Canada, and it will be there for you and you can get it by the shortest sea route from people who will stand up and be ready to fight for it and for you. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: I am pleased to say that we did not have to ring the bell in the case of Col. Denison, and I hope we shall not have to ring it in the case of any other members. (Laughter.)

I would now ask whether anybody will second resolution No. 18.

Mr. J. W. Woods (Toronto Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman, in seconding this resolution I shall confine my remarks to its closing clause and this by arrangement with Col. Denison. As Mr. Birge and Mr. Ponton both dwelt at length on this line, my remarks shall be very brief.

Lord Brassey, in his address, this morning, said: "Let us send you of our best," and on behalf of the Toronto Board of Trade, I give him full permission to do this. I have not consulted my confreres, but I feel satisfied that I am safe in granting that permission. We want your best—we want as many of them as we can get. I have been surprised at times by the apathy and indifference of business men in Great Britain as to the destiny or future domicile of their emigrant population. Whether they settle under the flag or outside the flag does not concern them materially. A friend whom I met in Manchester two months ago, and I may say he takes a great interest in public affairs generally—said frankly, that if Canada wanted to divert the stream of emigration leaving Great Britain for the United States, she should attend to it herself or pay for having it done. Now, this is not "the voice of Empire," but leaving sentiment entirely out of the question, let us

see where the pounds, shillings, and pence proposition comes in, which Mr. Gurney says is to-day the dominant factor in Imperial affairs, "God Save the King" sung twice in one morning notwithstanding.

Mr. Birge, who moved the resolution number 17, gave figures, but as mine differ somewhat from his and are placed in a somewhat different form, I venture to again go over them.

Great Britain sold in 1902 to about eighty million people in the United States, goods to the value of about twenty-five million pounds, or say about six shillings per head of population, while in the same year she sold to her eleven million self-governing Colonial subjects sixty-six million pounds worth of goods or six pounds per head of population. As a Canadian, I must in fairness say that Canada's rate of purchase amounts to about £4 per head, and I fancy that little New Zealand on this line of argument is entitled to special favors, her purchase from Great Britain amounting, I believe, to more per head of population of British blood than those of any other colony.

But this is not all: If a British emigrant settles under the Stars and Stripes instead of under the Union Jack, he not only becomes a dollar and a half per annum customer instead of a twenty dollar or a forty dollar per annum customer, but he takes his savings and his belongings with him to the United States—not very much at times possibly. Then there is the question of his personal efficiency—not very great either at times, but you are now going to send us "of your best." Presuming he is capable and in every way a desirable subject, he is a unit loss to British power, a unit loss to British production, a unit loss to British defence in time of need as shown in connection with South African troubles. Then again settling under a foreign flag, he becomes an additional consumer and an additional producer increasing the strength of Great Britain's most formidable competitor in her fight for the trade of the world. (Hear, hear.)

It is, I claim, a matter of vital importance to Great Britain and every effort should be made to reduce her emigrant population to settle under the flag of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, of course, by preference—but let it be "under the flag."

Suggestions have been asked for, but I have none to offer. Canada is now putting out strenuous efforts. We feel that England is to some extent at least indifferent. We, in Canada, realize that our increase of population has been small, and that in fact, is quite frequently dwelt upon in Great Britain, but do our friends there recognize, to borrow an American slang term "what we are up against." A republic with a population fifteen times as great as ours, with resources equal to our own, but advanced many stages beyond ours and offering inducements in every walk of life which unfortunately for us has been too strong for many of our people to withstand. To us in Canada it is gratifying that we have held our own as well as we have. In every department save that of population our progress has been—of late particularly, eminently satisfactory, and in the matter of population we are beginning to draw from our large neighbour. The class of emigrant we have this year been getting from across the seas has also improved, and once the tide turns, our growth will be rapid enough to suit the most critical. (Hear, hear.)

It is my firm opinion that to the British emigrant Canada presents a fairer field to-day than does the United States.

I have much pleasure Mr. Chairman, in seconding the resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: Resolution number 18 has been moved and seconded. I have the names of three gentle-

men who desire to speak to this question. I will now call upon Mr. Humphries of Bristol.

Mr. SYDNEY HUMPHRIES (of Bristol Chamber): Mr. Chairman, gentlemen: All of us who have come from the other side of the Atlantic, have been delighted to hear the able speech of Col. Denison, and speaking personally I shall be very much delighted if he would come over and talk to our British electorate.

COLONEL DENISON (of Toronto): I talked to you last year in the British Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. HUMPHRIES: I am glad to hear it and I hope we shall hear you again, but Mr. Chairman, I must say that with Col. Denison's speech I entirely agree. If I have a remark to make with reference to your great products, I hope the Canadian gentlemen will take it kindly. We, on our side, are only anxious to deal, if we can, within the Empire (hear, hear), and if any means can be devised to give us supplies in sufficient quantity you may be certain of this that we will give the preference to our Colonies, but if you ask us to give that preference, you on your part must do everything you can to make trading easy and fair. They say an ounce of practice is worth a pound of precept, and if I give you one or two instances from my own personal observation, it will not be from any egotism, but because I am actually speaking of circumstances with which I am acquainted.

As you gentlemen of Canada know we buy by cable on grades; with Russia we buy on sample. When we have your certificates on our side it is final. If we have a sample, with Russia we can go to arbitration if the thing is not correct. I only mention this point to show you how absolutely necessary it is that your certificate shall positively represent what you are selling and what you have to sell. I know that some few years ago there was a great deal of talk about debasing the English sovereign. We don't want to see your certificates debased. Now, I am perfectly certain of this—I come from Bristol and on the Bristol Exchange you often hear importers say, "Here are two samples, number 1 Northern Manitoba wheat. This is a very fine lot. The point is, do those who grade the wheat exercise sufficient care, so as to induce the English miller—because it is the English miller you have to deal with—to use all they possibly can. Now, there is a case that happened with me within the last three months. I bought some number 3 Northern, to take the place of some Russian wheat I was using. I was using 25 per cent. of Russian wheat. Number 3 came on the market, and, as a Britisher, I said, "We will have the number 3 to take the place of the other if it answers the purpose. I made a trial and the experiment proved absolutely successful.

Mr. THEODORE V. S. ANGLER (Ex-President Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom): With an apology to the speaker, I rise to a point of order. I think that we are all agreed that our time is short—far too short—and to keep to the point is one of the principal things in our discussions. We are on the subject of emigration, I submit to the chair, and not on statistics, nor on grain prices, nor on grain production.

VOICES: Food Supply.

THE CHAIRMAN: Although it does appear you are perfectly correct sir, it appears under the head of emigration, but it was pointed out by Colonel Denison that that was wrongly placed and that it was a question of food supply.

COLONEL DENISON: I may say that when it was sent originally to the Old Country our heading was food supply and emigration.

THE CHAIRMAN: I may say that the present speaker said he desired to make a remark about the food supply that came from the colonies, and he wished to



call attention to it being accurately described. I told him that although it was a little outside the immediate question, still I thought it was a matter of such moment that if he made very short remarks on it they would be acceptable to the meeting. (Hear, hear). I hope my action has not been unacceptable, but of course I will ask the speaker to be as brief as possible.

MR. HUMPHRIES: I thank you very much, and if the gentleman had not interrupted me, I should have finished by now. I was saying that we had this wheat in and we put it in the place of Russian wheat, and were perfectly satisfied with the results, and on the strength of that I bought two or three more such when the next load came in, but instead of being able to use 25 per cent. of it, I had to cut it down to 5 per cent., for it was damaging my product, and I had to return to the Russian wheat. Now, I think that is where the point comes in. We want to have the grain such that we can know when we buy it that it will actually come to us what we buy. We have no sample to go on, but merely the word of your inspector and his certificate. Give us that assurance, and I am certain of this, that the milling interest of the Old Country will respond in every way possible, and all you have to do is to produce all you can, and more power to your elbow. (Applause).

THE CHAIRMAN: It now becomes my duty to call on the next gentleman, Mr. Mullins, of Cardiff.

MR. J. H. MULLINS (Cardiff): The question of the certificate issued by Canada has been a burning one for several years. In 1891 a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into it, and the result was not satisfactory. Unfortunately, it has been unsatisfactory, and it has become such a serious matter that it has been taken into serious consideration as to whether Montreal certificates should not be taken out of London contract. Now, this is very serious for Montreal; for if it was taken out, it would interfere very seriously with the exports from this port. I have actually had a lot of corn into Cardiff which would have carried all right, but would not have been graded in the United States as No. 2, but they were enabled to pass that through this port, and received a certificate of No. 2 corn. We received that corn in Cardiff and found it contained something like twenty to thirty per cent. of damaged grain. It is very bad form for Montreal to pass such wheat as that.

Then I have a letter from a friend of mine in Belfast who received a large quantity of wheat, No. 2 hard, and Red Winter. He said that they found the No. 2 Red Winter having all the appearance of being handled and rubbed off the sprout.

THE CHAIRMAN: Your points are very strong, sir, but would you let your voice be a little stronger.

MR. MULLINS: I am small of stature and I am afraid small in voice too, sir, but I will do my best.

This wheat which arrived at Glasgow, I may say, was so bad that, although it had a certificate, a Montreal certificate, representing it to be what it was supposed to be, it was so bad that they had an arbitration on it, and the arbitrators awarded that it was absolutely unfit for milling, and it was rejected. How that could be passed through and be graded in Montreal as the wheat represented by the certificate, I don't know. But it is really a most important thing because we have no redress whatever. We have to buy on the certificate and the consequence is that if this thing keeps on we shall have to do the only thing we can and refuse certificates from Montreal altogether. I think in discussing such matters with the colonies this question of the certificates is one of the most important we have to deal with.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Pillman.

MR. J. C. PILLMAN (London): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, we rejoice that we have come to a colony with such prospects that she is enabled to produce the finest wheat in the world, and that practically to an unlimited extent, provided that she has an emigration that she desires, as embodied in the resolution before the meeting. We in England in the past have been able to get a cheap and good food supply from the United States, but we hail with satisfaction the prospect that the Dominion of Canada will be the granary of the Empire (applause), and that this resolution which is put before us to-day is one that we can vote in favor of without going into the question of fiscal policy at all, because it says that the best manner of advancing this scheme and growing all the wheat necessary within our Empire is by our sending our sons to the colonies. I hope that the effect of our visit to Canada will be that we shall be so impressed with the importance of the country, and with the fact that it is an essential factor for the prosperity of the Empire, with its wheat fields and all the prosperity which the Empire can rely upon, that it will be our interest to help forward this scheme of emigration to the best of our ability and by sending our own children out and strengthening their hands in the work they are doing. (Applause.) I am sure it needs no further words from me asking you to heartily support the resolution that is now submitted.

THE CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Mr. Boulton, the most prominent member in the London Chamber of Commerce, and one who has done a great deal for us in arbitrating several matters.

MR. S. B. BOULTON (London): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I will only detain you for three or four minutes, and not for the purpose of enlarging upon the eloquent remarks of Col. Denison and others, because I feel confident that everything that has been said has been sufficiently well said to serve the purpose. I think we all agree, and I think we shall pass a unanimous resolution on the subject, but I merely rise as a member of the executive to give one little piece of information that came to us in the course of our duties. We have received a communication from a body which calls itself "The Excelsior Assembly of the Knights of Labor of Toronto." I will not take up your time by reading it, but will give you the gist of the most important pages. It simply states that the gentlemen of this labor association desire to record their opinion on the emigration into Canada, and that opinion is that it should be discouraged rather than encouraged. This is the opinion of the, no doubt, very honestly minded assembly of workmen. This is the nature of it: "This Assembly (that is, their assembly) would therefore request that if any recommendation is made respecting emigration it may be that grants for the conduct of emigration be abolished."

Gentlemen, we cannot agree to that, and the answer of our Secretary will be that this body has no locus standi with us, as Chambers of Commerce are bodies of men employing capital, and trades union congresses are held by the working classes, who are right in trying to protect their own interest, and it is not the custom of capitalists to send resolutions to Congresses of Trades Unions or for Trades Unions to send resolutions to Congresses of capitalists. I give this information for the benefit of those in Toronto. That is, if there is a body of opinion to that effect among people in Canada, because emigration is very often promoted by those who come to a new country and recommend friends and relatives to come also. This morning, before coming to the Congress, I was told that a man wanted to see me. He was a gardener formerly in my employment and he not only came himself to see me, but he brought his wife and he not only brought his



wife but he brought their two babies. His object simply was to tell me how happy he was in his new country. He was a gardener with me. He is a miller here and earns \$9.00 a week. A man like that is the best possible emigration agent you can have. He writes home and says: "I am in clover, you can be too if you come up here." I do not know much about trades unions here, but I do know something about them in the United Kingdom and the trouble we have with them. Our best way to do with them is to explain matters to them. No doubt you in Toronto do that. I have frequently taken the opportunity to see trades union leaders—and you could do the same—and talk to them some sound common sense and a little political economy, you would not lose your time, and from my experience in London going around to meetings of working men and to working men's clubs and telling them what we employers think is the right side of the question, I am sure that you find this to be a useful thing to do.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Mr. James Cormack, representing the Edinburgh and Leith Chambers of Commerce will now address you.

**MR. JAMES CORMACK (Edinburgh):** Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I think the subject which has just been brought under your notice is one of the most important and interesting which could be brought before us. I just rise to say a few words in support of the resolution proposed so eloquently by our friend Col. Denison. Those who know the amount of time and labor which Col. Denison has given to stirring up interest in the Old Country, will not be surprised to hear what he has said to-day. My object in rising is simply this, to endeavor to remove any feeling which may exist and which I think was expressed by one of the speakers, that in the Old Country we are very indifferent to this subject. I wish to say that if that holds good in England it does not in Scotland. The matter is one of very pressing importance, and when we think how we in the Old Country are dependent on food supplies from abroad, we can hardly over-estimate the importance of this subject. Col. Denison spoke of the fact, and I was glad to hear what he said about encouraging the growing of wheat in our own country. That seems a matter of extreme importance when we hear it stated that five-sixths of the supply of wheat required for our annual consumption comes to us from over the seas. I am quite sure, speaking for myself, and the Chambers I represent, that there is nothing we desire more than to see the bread we need supplied from Canada rather than from foreign States. Anything we can do to assist this object will have our cordial support. (Applause.)

I would like to refer to one fact to show you that the question is not viewed with indifference by us. I attended lately a meeting in the Foreign Office with the Prime Minister on this subject. The large room was crowded with representatives of all interests from all parts of the country. There was no want of interest there I assure you. A very important Royal Commission has been appointed by the Government on this matter and is taking evidence on it at the present time. Just to show how we are depending on foreign supplies, I would like to say that in the last ten years the acreage of wheat grown in the United Kingdom has gone down nearly half a million acres, or to be exact, 493,400 acres, having fallen from 2,219,500 acres in 1892 to 1,726,100 acres in 1902. The decrease last year on the acreage under crops was not less than 35,000 acres, and at the same time there was a reduction of 3% in the number of cattle and of 631,000 sheep in the United Kingdom.

There is one other point I should like to refer to. This question of emigration has two sides. We rejoice to see our countrymen coming to Canada to our own

colony. Heretofore unfortunately they have not seen it to their advantage to come here, but I am glad to say there is an increasing tendency, among our country population at all events to come here, and I hope this will increase. Col. Denison knows well this question has another side.

I think that any one who has passed through our country, especially in the Highlands, will be distressed to see the extent to which the population has gone down, and I leave you to judge what has been the cause of this. The cause is only too apparent. Colonel Denison I think has referred to it already and I need not enlarge upon it. Gentlemen, I must apologize for keeping you so long, but I was anxious to say a word, even if unprepared, in support of Colonel Denison's motion.

**MR. G. H. HOGG (of North Shields Chamber of Commerce):** I wish to say sir that I agree most cordially with the resolution moved by Colonel Denison. I believe it is moved in absolute sincerity, and I think we owe him a debt of gratitude for pointing out what is undoubtedly an obvious danger. But when he came to the substance of his speech, then I join issue with him on almost every point, and I say that had the proposal which he has put forward been included in his resolution, I believe there would have been a very large amount of opposition to it. There is not a single word in the resolution about the tax on bread. Now, sir, I think the entire speech would have been better reserved until we come to discuss the fiscal policy of the Empire. (Hear, hear.) A very large portion of the speech was based upon the possibility of a war with the United States. I make bold to say that war with the United States, is not within the region of probabilities, and it ought to be the task of our statesmen to take it out of the region of the possibilities. What is the meaning of this proposal? The suggestion that we should grow more wheat in England is an excellent one, but I think a better suggestion might be made than that 41,000,000 people should submit to have their bread made dearer and perhaps for ever. The idea that they should do this in order to provide against an imaginary danger is Utopian. (Applause.) I do not think we will ever get the people of the United Kingdom to entertain such a proposal. In the United States and Germany, which are both protected countries where they enjoy a tariff against wheat, in these two countries the drift is from the country to the town almost to as great an extent as in the old Kingdom. The four shillings tax which has been proposed—and I believe I am perhaps a little out of order in discussing it at this moment.

**GENERAL LAURIE:** I quite agree with you. I did not want to stop you, but now that you have referred to it, I hope you will not pursue it any further. (Laughter.)

**MR. HOGG:** I quite agree with you in your ruling, and my surprise is that you did not discuss that point in the speech of Colonel Denison. (Laughter.) All I wish to say on the matter is this: I believe the same object in view as the Honorable member who moved the resolution. I recognized the same dangerous possibilities, but why should we penalize a nation whose only crime is that they have supplied us with cheap food, I do not believe in the policy at any time of kicking the bridge that has carried us over, but I decidedly object to kicking the bridge that has carried us over until we have another to carry us back. You in Canada are building a bridge, we will give you all the help we can. Produce all you can and we will take it and be glad to get hold of it, but do not incur present evil and mischief to secure a future and somewhat problematical good. (Applause.)

**MR. R. HARVEY DAWK** (Hymouth Chamber of Commerce): I have only one word to say. I heartily approve in every way of the resolution, and I hope the other delegates on their return will endeavor each in his own sphere to promote immigration to our own colonies, and I would add especially to Canada. (Hear, hear). That I have done myself and I am prepared to do it again, and now I wish to say one word to our Canadian brothers. Something has been said already on the question of interfering with the grade of wheat. I was in the trade as a miller, but I am out of business now and I have no axe to grind. Some years ago I had samples sent to me from Regina of the finest wheat I ever saw in my life, shillings a quarter better than anything we would get in our home markets. I tried to get the wheat direct from the farmer who grew it into my mill. I went to the point where I was absolutely stopped and I could not get it. I did not care what I paid for it. I wanted to get that wheat as an experiment and put on our market. I think you ought to know where that difficulty arose, and I think you ought to put your shoulders to the wheel to get this matter remedied. If a man who has a farm is growing wheat so much a bushel better than his neighbor, there is no reason on earth that I know of why that man who grows the better wheat should not get a better price, and if that better wheat is put in the elevator and graded with a lower wheat in order to bring the lower wheat up to the standard, I say it is not fair to the man who is growing the better wheat. I mentioned this matter in a letter written to the Canadian Commissioner at the Glasgow Exhibition, and I received from him a reply dated from the Canadian Pavilion, Glasgow, 25th of October, 1901, in which he says:

"I am inclined to think that in this particular case the C. P. R. are not altogether at fault. From what I can learn Montreal and not Fort William is the place where most of the difficulty arises."

If you can find out where that difficulty is it will be to the advantage of the North-West farmers and the sooner it is removed the better. In another letter your Commissioner says:

"I think I appreciate the facts of the case pretty well now and from information I have received, I think the chances of getting the pure unmixed No. 1 hard laid down here at practically the same transport rate as the other are very favorable. In addition to our No. 1 hard being slightly adulterated with lower grades I understand there is also a good deal of weed seed mixed in with it. This, of course, is done in the elevators as the wheat farms are as yet comparatively free from weeds."

If the men who grew this finest wheat are to be injured by this mixing, the sooner you find it out and stop it the better for you and for the British miller. (Applause.)

**MR. J. S. JEANS** (of the British Iron Trade Association): Colonel Denison has drawn a rather alarming picture as to the attitude taken by the War Office and other departments of the British Government in relation to the food supply. I do not know whether I am possibly the only delegate present who has been under examination within the last few weeks by the royal commission referred to by a previous speaker, appointed by the Government to inquire into the subject of the food supply and raw material in time of war. That Commission comprises quite a number of the leading men connected with the Government of the day. It is presided over by Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, and among the most indefatigable and regular attendants, is His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

I can only say, speaking from the rigour of the cross-

examination to which I was subjected, as a witness, by His Royal Highness and others, that the matter is being thoroughly investigated and that there can be no doubt that a most valuable report will shortly be presented, which may be expected to solve to a certain extent the question which the Colonel has raised.

The only matter as to which I am somewhat uncertain is that of whether the report will be made public. If so, I feel sure that Colonel Denison's alarmist views will be to some extent modified. But in any case, I would suggest it is desirable that the Congress take steps to give evidence before the commission, or the Canadian representatives should nominate witnesses, and if they do, I have no hesitation in saying they will get a very good opportunity of stating their case. (Hear, hear).

**MR. T. V. S. ANGLIER** (The Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom): I plead the same excuse as our fellow delegate, shortness of stature, but, I hope to follow my stature by my words—short, but I hope, sweet. I would like to put myself right with my friend the hon. member from Bristol, for the interruption I caused him in his very interesting remarks. Believe me, brother delegates, my surprise was great, when I heard this subject brought forward. I looked from top to bottom of our agenda and found no food supply. Now, this being one of my pet subjects, a subject I dived into head foremost by pamphlet, by speeches on hustings, by statistics innumerable, you may naturally picture to yourselves my surprise, and a certain amount of chagrin to think I was not prepared on my own subject. It is a burning subject and not, as Colonel Denison thought, a dead subject in England. It agitated the whole Corn Market and Shipping Exchange for months. The Duke of Sutherland, formed a large and important committee to press for a royal commission to examine into the question, and he got it. I helped him; we all helped him. I am not, like Mr. Hogg; he is a better speaker than I am, but I would like to fight it out with him. I believe the Colonel is right. He hit from the shoulder and I would like to see any one guard those hits, with original, honest, strong arguments. I don't believe he could—the Colonel would get in. I maintain that the history of the world would prove that the means he suggested were right. I dare not repeat his means, but you know what I mean. The effect of such a measure would be to increase production and increase competition by our own kith and kin, and the result of increased competition and production is invariably a lowering of prices, and therefore the consumers would naturally reap the benefit. (Hear, hear).

I would like to point out to Colonel Denison that there is another very grave and most important question to consider, as well as those he so cleverly brought forward. What would be the use of your increased production or heaping up of increased grain and other productions, if you could not get them from your shores? What does the whole trade of the world depend upon? It is the shipping, and unless you carry us with you, you would find yourselves no good. Look after the shipping first, and I will leave you free hands to do what else you like. Anyone who thinks it out will come to my conclusion. Take care of your ships and communications and the rest will take care of itself. (Hear, hear).

**GENERAL LAURIE:** I have come to the end of my list of speakers; I have no other names.

A gentleman rose in the hall to speak, but without giving his name, whereupon, General Laurie called, "name, name; your name is not before the chair."

**A DELEGATE:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question. Would you please tell me who chooses the speakers?

**THE CHAIRMAN (General Laurie):** When a gentleman desires to speak he sends his name to the chairman. I have the name of Mr. McFee, Montreal.

**A DELEGATE:** Are we to understand Mr. Chairman that no one is to speak unless he has sent his name to the chair?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Well, I have so ruled. It would be impossible to carry on any business unless I have the names sent up so that I can know who is going to speak and call the speakers one by one. You really must put some power into the hands of your chairman if you wish your business conducted properly, and if I am arbitrary, or, if I exercise any power that you did not intend me to exercise, I regret it deeply, yet I think it is in the general interest of the Congress that I should carry out this rule.

**MR. ALEX. MCFEE (Ex-President Montreal Board of Trade):** Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Congress: I regret that it is necessary for me to rise on this occasion to defend the business systems of this port. I mean the port of Montreal. The port of Montreal has been attacked by Mr. Humphries and Mr. Mullins and another gentleman whose name I have not before me. Now, it is my opinion that these gentlemen are not conversant with the trade conditions as far as this port of Montreal is concerned. They do not know that the inspection of our Manitoba wheat is not made at the port of Montreal. I may inform them that there is no Manitoba wheat whatever shipped from this port that is inspected here. Every bushel of Manitoba wheat that is exported is inspected before it leaves Fort William and from there it passes to the seaports of Montreal, Portland, Boston or New York to be exported to the markets on the other side of the Atlantic. I may say further that at this port of Montreal there is no degrading of Manitoba wheat—it is not degraded as to quality at this port. Once the wheat leaves Fort William it is not inspected until it reaches the markets of the Old World. I may add another remark. There are certificates in the Old Country for the Canadian wheat that have been given in American cities and to prove what I am saying now, I may tell you that during a visit to the port of Bristol, I saw certificates of Manitoba wheat, graded from the city of Philadelphia.

I will say that you should blame yourselves in accepting Manitoba wheat certificates issued in a foreign country and not in Canada. (Hear, hear.)

Now as regards corn or maize: We are not producers of corn in this country for export. We are simply a way port, a place of transshipment for American corn. We have an inspection law for domestic grain, but we have foreign corn which comes through this channel to be exported at this port because we have the transportation facilities to do so, but the inspection of corn that we make here is not under the Canadian law of Canada by statute, as far as I know—it is not under the Canadian law for domestic grain that this foreign grain is inspected but we grant the grading as a privilege and the Government has provided the machinery to carry on the business transhipped through this port of foreign grain. It is sent to this country for transhipment.

I would ask Mr. Mullins if he knows what the standard grade No. 2 inspected corn is in Montreal. I think he does not know what it is. He never saw it, and he does not know the basis upon which our inspectors work. Now, I think I have said enough on this question.

We, in Montreal, are prepared to deal justly with any complaint which we receive. (Hear, hear.) Any complaint that comes before Montreal merchants will be dealt with justly, but you must send it in in an official manner. Your sample must not be sent in by an interested party chosen by the merchant him-

self, nor chosen by the receiver without a proper invoice, but you should bring your complaints properly before us and with sufficient samples of the parcel of grain and you will receive justice from the merchants of Montreal. (Hear, hear.)

I may say that we have had samples placed before us—I remember one case while I was on the board of examiners, of a sample that came before us which we considered did not represent the shipments received on other side of the water, and we treated the sample as it deserved, that was not a fair and honest sample to send for our consideration. Give us what we are entitled to—an official sample of the shipment received, drawn by disinterested parties, and you will receive from us in Montreal all that is your due on every occasion.

I should not have to defend our inspection here, but I feel that I could not allow this to pass without speaking to it in replying to those gentlemen who attacked the inspection at the port of Montreal. As far as the western inspection in Manitoba is concerned, I have done a fair share of Manitoba business myself during the past year, and I have not had a single complaint from the buyers as to the grading or quality of the wheat received in England.

Now, I would say that I do not believe these gentlemen represent the experience of the buyers of five or six million quarters of Manitoba wheat that was received in England during the past year. The quality of and the demand for our wheat is evidence of this. I can assure you, gentlemen, that there would be numerous complaints if it was not satisfactory.

**MR. ENEZER PARKES, M.P. (Birmingham Chamber of Commerce):** Mr. Chairman: I would arise to a point of order. At the rate we are going on with regard to the subjects which we have now been discussing for two hours, it seems to me that this subject is more or less of a particular trade question which is not what you might call a question of the general policy of the country which we have met together to discuss. I want to know this: if we are to remain discussing one question which is not one of the most important for this length of time, what time can we give to the consideration of the thirty or forty questions which are to come before us. All I can say is, if we go on at the present rate most of the resolutions will have to be slaughtered to-morrow at mid-day. Now, it seems to me that what we ought to do is to get through those questions which are not so important, much faster than we are doing at the present time.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I do not think I can apply the closure after a certain number of speakers have expressed their views, because everybody has a right to speak on behalf of his Board of Trade, but I do hope that the delegates will exercise that right with moderation, and I do not know that I can do anything more than appeal to your good feeling not to get up and repeat what somebody else has said. (Hear, hear.) If you will only bring up new matter, then I feel bound, as long as I am the chairman, to accept your desire to speak and permit you to do so. I quite recognize the justice of Mr. Parkes' observation, but at the same time I feel I am in that position, and therefore I feel bound to call upon speakers only asking them that they will not go over the same subject that has been spoken of by others.

**MR. JOSEPH S. DRONSFIELD (member of the Oldham Chamber of Commerce):** Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: There is one aspect of this question which I think has not been touched upon, and that is: "Can we depend on our present sources of supply?" It has been pointed out that we import into England five-sixths of the corn we require, and one speaker has objected to our altering any fiscal arrangements simply because we get the largest supply from the United

States. Now, at our last annual dinner of the Oldham Chamber of Commerce, it was pointed out that, taking the increase of population in the various countries that now send corn, they were gradually year by year absorbing more and more of their own growth, and therefore we cannot permanently depend upon our present sources of supply. That being so would it not be wise in time to make such provision that we can insure a supply to be less dependent on these foreign countries who will eventually not be able to send us all we require? How is it that so large a proportion of the land of England has gone out of cultivation? Is it not due to present fiscal arrangements? And would it not be wise to so foster our own colonies and look upon them with fostering care in such a way as to create a kind of insurance against a short supply in the years to come. (Hear, hear.)

At the present time in Lancashire we are suffering from a short supply of cotton. Our mills are standing idle or working at a loss, and associations have been formed, and large subscriptions have been collected to foster the growth of cotton, but that is simply another way of giving a preference, and surely that is not the best plan that can be adopted. It is only the generous members that contribute while all the members gain the advantage. Now, I think it is very important that we should take means to foster this growth of corn in order to be less dependent on foreign countries.

VOICES: Vote, vote, vote.

The CHAIRMAN: I have now a gentleman who sent up his name some time ago, but, by mistake, I misplaced the card. I must apologize for it. I will now call upon Mr. Cawley, of the British Iron Trade Association.

Mr. GEORGE CAWLEY (of the British Iron Trade Association): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I won't keep the meeting more than a couple of minutes. Of course this resolution distinctly refers to food supply and emigration, and my remarks shall be confined to it.

The mover of the resolution, Colonel Denison, in his very eloquent speech, said that the next thing to growing corn in the Old Country was to let it grow in her colonies. I think we all agree to that. And he preferentially said that Canada would be the next best place to supply our food supply. Well, his remarks were to the effect that the Old Country was neglectful in some way in purchasing elsewhere the food supply that could be supplied by Canada. As no previous speaker has referred to this point, and it is rather important, I would like to point out to the meeting that the Old Country is a very willing customer of Canada (hear, hear), and, according to this book which I hold in my hand, and which is the statistical year-book of Canada, it would appear that we now in the Old Country purchase nearly 99 per cent. of the whole produce of Canada. This is rather important as the figures go back to 1874. It does not give it in percentages, nor the total value. This is the heading: "Statement of the total quantity and value of productions of produce of Canada exported from the Dominion during a certain year and the principal countries to which they were exported. In 1874 the total value was a little over nine million dollars. Of that, seven million dollars went to Great Britain, and the rest went to the United States, Newfoundland, and other countries. I will not trouble you with any figures except those for 1901, when the total value was thirty-nine and a quarter million dollars, and of that thirty-eight and three-quarter millions went to the Old Country. (Hear, hear.)

I think those figures are important as showing that we are very willing customers of Canada, and that all you have to do now is to increase the exports, and I take it that this resolution is to aid Canada in that

by supplying her with surplus labor. The resolution is simply a matter of emigration, and I think there will be no difficulty, as far as I can see, in the meeting agreeing with the resolution that it would be well to send more able-bodied men to Canada. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wilkie, of Toronto.

Mr. D. R. WILKIE (of Toronto): Mr. Chairman, I will not detain you many minutes, but there have been a number of mistakes made during this argument which it is well to correct. Matters have been introduced that have no bearing whatever upon the resolution. The resolution is "it is most desirable and necessary to divert, as far as possible, all of our able-bodied surplus population who will make useful citizens, to the shores of our dominions beyond the seas." It is not a question of diverting it all to Canada. We are not selfish enough here to desire it all, but we want it to go to the British dominions beyond the seas. We are all interested in this question, but there is one point that Col. Denison I thought would embrace—and he is accustomed to embrace almost everything—there is one point he left out. He spoke only of the danger of war with the United States. Now, the greatest danger I consider to be a war between the Empire—because it has come to that pass, a war with Great Britain means a war with the Empire—and some other country than the United States, and the probability and possibility in case the sympathies of the American nation were with our enemies that they would declare wheat to be contraband of war. What would be the position then? The question will come up some day and it is a very vital question in that if food for engines and boilers are contraband, why not the food of the people of the Empire. If coal is contraband, why should not be food for sailors and officers? The one is just as likely to be declared contraband as the other, depending entirely on the humor of outside nations.

There was one other point raised, I think it was by Mr. Hogg, who spoke, "of kicking the bridge over before another one was constructed." All this resolution asks is to build the bridge first—(hear, hear)—and have it ready and tested and prepared to carry the food of the Empire over it and then you can afford to kick the other over if you like, but it will never come to that. (Applause.)

Just so soon as Canada and the other dominions of the Empire are prepared to furnish the food of the Empire, so soon will you find that the nations who have been supplying England heretofore will come to your terms. (Hear, hear.) You have them at your mercy. Don't fail to exercise your power.

The CHAIRMAN: As I have no more names of speakers to the resolution, I will now put it to the meeting.

COLONEL DENISON: If I might be allowed to say a few words in reply to the criticism of the resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: You went so far outside the terms of the resolution in your speech that I doubt if I shall allow you the privilege. (Laughter.)

COLONEL DENISON: I wish now, sir, to confine myself to the terms of the resolution. I believe as a matter of fact that France declared rice contraband of war on one occasion; as a matter of fact Russia stopped the exportation of wheat from New Chang on the pretext that there was some old rule against it. You will find now that the next war will have the effect of causing food to be regarded as a contraband of war.

I want to say a few words in reference to Mr. Hogg's remarks about the possibility of war. Sir, I hope we will have no war, but, sir, there is a possibility, there is a probability all the time, that such a thing may happen. Only a very few years ago, and Mr. Hogg himself must remember it, there came a message on the Vene-



suela business from the President of the United States—a matter with which the United States had nothing under the sun to do—couched in such terms that between any other two nations war would certainly have resulted, and on the sending of this message 42 out of 45 governors of states telegraphed at once to the President and offered the services of their militia and forces to attack Canada.

Well, we were not afraid of them (applause). Well, gentlemen, you rather laugh at that. (Cries, of no! no!) I tell you when they were one hundred to one they could not thrash us, and they cannot thrash us to-day when they are fifteen to one. If sixty or seventy thousand Boers fighting on their own soil defied 400,000,000 people; five or six millions of Canadians can surely fight against 40 or 50 or 60 or 70 millions. (Applause.)

Well, gentlemen, if there is not going to be war all right, don't spend millions of pounds a year, but if there may be a war,—if you are afraid there will be a war, and if you will spend that money, why not change the tax that the poor man pays on his tea or tobacco —

THE CHAIRMAN: I think you promised me you would not go on that subject.

COLONEL DENISON (Laughing): Very well. I have finished.

THE CHAIRMAN: I now have to ask that resolution 18 be voted on. It is before you and there is no need of my reading it. Will those in favor of the resolution please signify in the usual manner.

The motion was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now we come to number 19. I understand the Northern India Chamber of Commerce have asked leave to withdraw this resolution, so we will now proceed to No. 20, which will be moved by Mr. Morley Wickett, on behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. I have not the name of the seconder.

#### TREATIES BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Mr. Morley Wickett (Toronto) moved the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Congress of treaties between Great Britain and foreign countries should leave Great Britain free to enter into such relations with the colonies and dependencies as might be deemed expedient."

MR. MORLEY WICKETT said: We gather, sir, from the tone of the meeting to-day that there are three principles to be recognized: the first is to stand up, that I have done; the second is to speak up; that I am trying to do; and the third is to shut up, which I shall do in a very few moments.

The resolution which has been placed in my hands is with regard to a preferential tariff between the Mother Country and the colonies. It has been considered of sufficient importance to warrant us in putting it in the form of a resolution at this Congress. I shall, therefore, be extremely brief. We all know the history of the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties with Great Britain, we know of the great difficulties the denunciation met with at first, and of the time that it required, the very long time it required. Sir, this resolution is a request from the Chamber of Commerce, from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in the first instance, that Great Britain will not enter into any fresh treaty with foreign countries that would place in the way of Imperial unity the difficulties that were met with in the case of the Belgian and German treaties. It is to be noted that the resolution does not interfere with the domestic relations. It is merely a matter of

external commercial relations. As a matter of fact the meaning I think can safely be taken for granted. The resolution then, sir, as it reads, is a hint of what the Empire seems to have in mind, namely the possible realization of some Imperial unity.

In the second place, sir, it seems to me a distinct request that no further difficulties shall be placed in the way towards realizing that Imperial unity which is evidently the goal which we are all seeking. I have great pleasure, sir, in moving this resolution.

MR. P. W. ELLIS (Canadian Manufacturers' Association): Mr. Chairman, I simply second this resolution in order that it may properly be before the Congress, and to enable those who wish to discuss it. All Canadians will remember the difficulties that were encountered when we desired to offer unsolicited to our Mother Country a special advantage in our markets, and on account of that experience we are desirous to avoid a like experience in the future, and it appears to us to be desirable that this Congress should express their views on that subject and embody it in the terms of the resolution which in their judgment they may see fit to pass. I have very much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have no names associated with the resolution, so I will immediately put it to vote. It is resolution No. 20—you have it before you. Will all those in favor of the resolution please signify in the usual manner.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: We now come to resolution No. 21. I will call upon Mr. Bodington, of the British Chamber of Commerce of Paris, to move this resolution.

#### MOST FAVORED-NATION-TREATMENT FOR COLONIES.

Mr. O. E. Bodington, President of the Paris (British) Chamber of Commerce moved:

"That the Congress desires to express its approval of the resolution adopted by the last Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, also unanimously approved by the autumnal meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, held in Paris, September, 1900, to the effect that His Majesty's Government should take immediate steps in conjunction with the governments of the colonies interested, in order to obtain for British Colonies most-favored-nation treatment from those countries which have granted most-favored-nation treatment to the United Kingdom, and against which the colonies are not discriminating in the application of their customs tariff."

MR. BODINGTON said: This is not a new resolution, for it has already been voted on at the Congress held in June, 1900. The resolution originated, as was explained to you then, through a tariff war which arose between France and Brazil. Brazil asked the Government of France to reduce the duty upon coffee. The Government of France refused to do so and the tariff war was the result, and France passed a measure which involved practically the doubling of the duty on all colonial produce. Now, that affected all British Colonies with the exception of Canada, which has, as you know, a special treaty of her own with France. The other colonies were already paying the maximum tariff in France and, therefore, they found the duty double on such articles as tea, coffee, pepper, spices, &c., coming from British Colonies like India, Ceylon, East and West Africa, and all the British West Indies.

It was with a view to meet this case, which our chamber at once considered to be a violation of the most favoured nation clause, that this resolution was originally framed and this was pointed out to the last Congress. We do not contemplate the passing of a general treaty which would bind Great Britain and her colonies to a definite policy, but we desire that each colony should be treated as a separate entity. I

propose to show you in a minute how the Imperial Government has regarded the importance of doing this. Ever since this petty quarrel between France and Brazil, the question of most favored nation treatment has assumed very special importance, in particular in regard to Canada. You have of course read the diplomatic correspondence which was published in the course of the month of June, which gives a resumé of the whole dispute between Canada and the Empire of Germany in particular in regard to the denunciation of the treaty. You recollect how—I will put this briefly—Canada in 1897, offered preferential treatment, not specially to Great Britain by designation, but to any country fulfilling conditions of reciprocity which I need not mention, though it happens that Great Britain was itself the only country fulfilling these conditions and, therefore, Great Britain benefitted immediately. Then the German Government observed that the treaty of 1865, entitled German goods in British Colonies to the same treatment as British goods, and the German Government made a claim to equal treatment with the Mother Country under this treaty. Canada asked that the treaty be denounced and the treaties with Belgium and Germany were denounced and came to end on the 30th of July, 1898. Then the Canadian Parliament passed an Act which confined the preferential treatment to Great Britain and her colonies. Then Germany retaliated by confining the most favoured nation treatment to Great Britain and her colonies, with the exception of Canada. Then Canada very naturally made representations to Great Britain, pointing out that she had not discriminated against Germany, that Germany was in no worse condition than any other country, that she has merely discriminated in favor of the Mother Country; and Great Britain reinforced that by pointing out that France is bound, under the treaty of Frankfurt, I think it is, to give the benefit of most favoured nation treatment to Germany, and that it is a common practice for the French Colonies to give preferential treatment to their Mother Land, and that Germany has not made any representations to France in that regard.

That was the position at the time of the last Congress. Negotiations were then taken up, chiefly through the German Consul of this city, and dragged along until this year with no result having been arrived at. Canada got tired, and during the present session of Parliament imposed a surtax of one-third on imports from countries which treated her goods on less favorable terms than those of other countries, and that was immediately applied to Germany. You will find that correspondence all at the end of the blue books. Germany said that it would be difficult to give benefits when the colonies gave benefits to the Mother Country as did Canada, and South Africa which contemplated doing so. That is a very brief review of the position of the question and of the Imperial Government, that is the status of the question, as far as I know to-day. The Imperial Government says this: "If Germany"—it is Lord Lansdowne who is speaking—"will restore Canadian produce to the most favored nation treatment, His Majesty's Government had not the least doubt that the increased duty which has been imposed on German goods will be at once removed." I have simply briefly reviewed that to show you that in the opinion of our Chamber, the British Government has this matter of most favoured nation treatment for the colonies well in hand and in view. Lord Lansdowne said: "It is a matter of the utmost moment in order that Great Britain and her colonies might be at liberty to make such arrangements as they considered necessary in view of their mutual trade." Therefore, I say the Mother Country is alive to this and we have retained this resolution on the paper, not because we doubt the capacity or willing-

ness of the Imperial Government to deal with the matter in a comprehensive or satisfactory manner to the colonies, but in order to review recent appearances in this connection and have an opportunity of expressing appreciation of the action of the Imperial Government.

MR. S. B. BOULTON (London): Gentlemen, on behalf of the London Chamber of Commerce, I have pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by Mr. Bodington. I will not take up much time in doing so. The London Chamber knows the circumstances; so does the Paris Chamber, of which I am also a member. At the last Congress we passed this resolution. We have not been able to get this matter approved of yet, but we hope before the next Congress is held that it will be satisfactorily settled.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I will now ask you to vote on this question.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

#### THE SURTAXE D'ENTREPOT.

MR. J. L. POLLOCK, Paris (British Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have to move resolution No. 22, but this will take a very short time indeed. This resolution is applicable chiefly to goods shipped into France from the colonies. The so-called "sur-taxe d'entrepot" is a duty levied on goods coming from foreign ports into France, unless they come by a French vessel. A number of our colonies have not that direct communication between France and their own ports. Therefore, it is their custom that goods going to France from the colonies have to pass by some other country, by Liverpool or Antwerp or some German port, and so they reach France. In such a case they are subject to this extra duty of thirty-six francs per hundred kilos. This surtaxe d'entrepot is a heavy charge on some kinds of goods. I endeavor in this motion to give the French Government the chance of taking this resolution up and allowing such goods to go on a through bill of lading without the extra tax. In this way the French Government would be able to accept the suggestion if they were approached properly. I am not going to say anything more about it, except to explain that I have brought the matter up in order to afford, if possible, a means to the colonies of getting over this heavy charge on their goods that touch at a foreign port before being landed in France. I hope that the resolution will be seconded and carried unanimously. I beg to move:—

"That the foreign office be requested to address representations to the French Government with a view to obtaining that goods coming on a through bill of lading via a British port from a British Colony which has no direct service with France, be considered by the French customs as coming direct, and admitted free of the surtaxe d'entrepot, i.e., of the special tax which is imposed in addition to the customs duty upon goods of extra European origin coming into France through a European port other than a French port."

GENERAL LAURIE: I have here the names of two seconders.

MR. GEORGE R. HOBSON (of Maseru, Basutoland): I am quite willing to withdraw in favor of the other.

MR. J. X. PERRAULT (Montreal Chambre de Commerce): As Secretary of the Canadian Commission at Paris we had a most disastrous experience with this surtaxe d'entrepot. We got goods through Belgium. We thought it would be cheaper, as we had a very favorable arrangement with them, but we found out that from Antwerp to Paris we had to pay a great deal more for the surtaxe d'entrepot than for freight. I think this is a most unfair impost. I know the Government of Canada has lately made representations to France on the subject. I believe the subject is most pressing because, as you all well know, we have no direct communication with France, or next to none.



We have a Finland boat coming to Canada from France once a month, but that is risky. We have also boats occasionally from other lines, but till we have regular lines I think it is most desirable that goods going from the British ports and simply touching, without unloading, should be allowed to reach France without this surtax d'entrepot, which hampers trade between France and Canada. (Applause.)

**GENERAL LAURIE:** There is a gentleman here from the London Chamber, Mr. Boulton, who has had some experience in this matter and desires to say a few words about it.

**MR. S. B. BOUTON** (London Chamber of Commerce): I am not going to take up your time long but merely to say a few words because I am directly acquainted with this iniquitous surtax.

It is made worse by the manner in which it is operated on the part of the Customs authorities in France. Goods which have been manufactured in England and agricultural products such as peas which have been grown in England have been seized because it has been pretended by the Customs authorities that they were of Canadian origin. This is a very ridiculous case, because it is quite impossible in the case of peas, for instance, by merely inspecting the sample, to tell whether they have been grown in Canada or England. We were provided with proof up to the hilt, from the farm where the peas were grown to the warehouse and the railway truck, and the shippers that took them across that they were of British and not of Canadian origin. Notwithstanding they were seized and fines imposed and the surtax d'entrepot also. So great was the grievance in connection with this tax that at last the London Chamber of Commerce took it up with the Foreign Office and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in France. No redress being given, on behalf of the London Chamber, I went to the Foreign Office and got

permission to put myself in direct communication with our ambassador in Paris. I had direct communication with him and finally we were enabled to get redress but only in this way: The French law says that if there is a dispute as to the origin of the goods, it must be referred to an expert, who decides where the goods are grown. Once he has given his opinion there is no redress, he being the final authority. I finally had to go to the French authorities and say that we were provided with proof up to the hilt that the goods were of English origin and that we would publish the statement of how the customs are carried out in France. I think the situation in this matter is one that calls for the taking of some measures with a view to redressing the difficulty. The way in which the law is administered renders it ridiculous, and it is a fair subject for diplomatic representations on the part of the Foreign Office.

**GENERAL LAURIE:** I have no more names and therefore I put the question.

The resolution was put and carried.

**GENERAL LAURIE:** With regard to resolution 23, I have a communication from the Vancouver Board of Trade, who say that it is not desired to move the resolution, but merely to have it stand as an expression of opinion. And now I have kept you, or you have kept me, whichever way you like to put it until nearly five minutes to six. If you wish to go on—well. ("No, no.") Before we adjourn I would say that resolutions 28, 29, 30 and 32, are to be discussed in the committee room here at 9.30 to-morrow morning. Will the representative of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, who has charge of these resolutions attend the meeting. That will conclude our business for this evening, and we will meet to-morrow morning at ten o'clock sharp. I thank you for the support you have given me.

The Congress adjourned until to-morrow (Tuesday) morning.

## SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1903.

The Congress resumed at 10 o'clock a.m., Lord Brassey presiding.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Gentlemen, you will find a new programme of business on the tables this morning, containing the new index of the participating parties of the Congress, together with the corrected list of delegates up to Thursday morning last. I am informed that it was not physically possible to include the Boards of Trade and delegates who have come into the Congress since Thursday last, but their names will be registered in the official report. On the last page of this programme you will find four additional resolutions, and I must ask the pleasure of the Congress as to whether these shall be included in the final official programme of business. I shall ask you to turn to page 55 of the sixth edition of your programme, and I will ask your will as to whether these are to be included. You will notice the first resolution from the representative of the Board of Trade of Sault St. Marie, Ontario. I will read it to you:—

Whereas, "The trading relations between the Mother Country and the colonies are rapidly expanding and are advantageously affected by wise legislation dealing with the question of the insolvency of traders, and whereas at present there is no uniformity under the law as between England and the colonies, it is desirable that, as far as possible, any colonial insolvency legislation shall be based upon the principles and procedure of the English Bankruptcy Act with such modifications thereof, or amendments thereto, as may be deemed in the best interests of the trading community."

Shall that be included in the subjects for discussion? (Aye, aye). I declare the "ayes" have it.

**GENERAL LAURIE:** That will come in with the Vancouver resolution.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** The next on the table of business is a resolution from the Ottawa and Toronto

Boards of Trade, in favor of a continuous state owned telegraph girdling the Empire. Are you in favor of discussing that subject gentlemen? (Aye, aye). I declare the "ayes" have it. Then comes a resolution from the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom:—

"That it is detrimental to the interests of the Merchant Shipping of the United Kingdom and colonies, that light dues should continue to be levied upon shipping in the United Kingdom, and that His Majesty's Government be respectfully requested to give effect to the recommendation of the select committee of the House of Commons on shipping subsidies:—That with a view to the fair competition of British shipowners with their foreign rivals, (interalia) light dues should be abolished."

Are you in favor of discussing that subject? (Aye, aye.) The "ayes" have it. Then we have something more thorny, an amendment to resolution 9 on the agenda of the London Chamber, to be proposed by Bury (Lancashire Chamber and to be seconded by Birstall, (Yorkshire Chamber). It is as follows:—

"That this Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire and other kindred institutions, recognizes that it is necessary to institute an enquiry into the existing fiscal system under which trade is carried on between the Mother Country and her colonies, in view of increasing such trade and strengthening and developing their relationship and also in view of improving the conditions of commerce between them and other nations, and hereby authorising the appointment of five members of the Congress to be a committee empowered to select representatives who shall be influential and qualified to act as a commission on behalf of the commercial bodies of the Empire, to collect information and receive evidence concerning the quantities and values of the various imports and exports of the Mother Country and her colonies, and also concerning the quantities and value of the imports and exports from and to other nations, respectively, and also to consider if any and what change of the present fiscal system and conditions of trade has become advisable, and upon the basis of such evidence and facts to recommend to His Majesty's Government what,

in its opinion, are the best methods to adopt under the circumstances."

Are you in favor of discussing this? (Aye). The "ayes" have it. I have to explain to you that this last resolution, dealing with the fiscal question in all its bearings, is under the consideration of the Committee, and will be considered by them, and the question dealt with in a collective manner this afternoon.

#### CONSULAR SERVICE.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now resume the discussion of resolution 21, which you will find on page 25 of the fifth edition of the programme. It is the resolution dealing with the consular service, and will be moved by Mr. Isaac Walton, M.P. (Laughter.)

MR. JOSEPH WALTON, M.P. (Barnsley and district Chamber of Commerce), moved:

"That in the opinion of this Congress it is urgently necessary in the interests of the commerce of the British Empire—

1st. That His Majesty's Government should resolutely maintain and extend our Commercial Treaty rights.

2nd. That the Consular Service should be re-organized and strengthened on lines calculated to make it more effective for the promotion of the trade of the British Empire.

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Foreign Secretary, the Prime Minister, and the Colonial Secretary."

MR. WALTON, M.P. said: Mr. Chairman, I am a great admirer of the celebrated Isaac Walton, though my name happens unfortunately to be Joseph. (Laughter.) I have no intention of entering into the voice production competition between my friend General Laurie and other delegates, but I will endeavor to make my voice reach all the gentlemen here this morning in considering the very important resolution I have to propose. It was a great pleasure for me to have such a useful opportunity of revisiting Canada. In 1890, I travelled through your country from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and I again repeated the same journey in 1899. My admiration of the splendid enterprise in the way of railway construction, of the wonderful development, not only of your agricultural interests, but of your trade and commerce has caused me to take the utmost possible interest in the progress and future well-being of Canada. (Hear, hear). Indeed, I may say that I have given I believe, to the people of the United Kingdom, some little information about Canada, because I have had the honor of giving in connection with about 50 chambers of commerce in the United Kingdom, lengthy lectures in Canada, entitled "From the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean." But in coming here to-day, I have the greatest possible hesitation. Now, my Lord, the resolution I have to bring before you this morning deals with the urgent necessity which exists for the promotion of British trade with the rest of the world outside of the British Empire. I realize the great importance of that, and that the main question to be considered by this Congress is the promotion of trade within the Empire. (Hear, hear). But I venture to say that it is equally important in the interest of the whole world-wide British Empire, that we should thrust upon His Majesty's Government, the great necessity of resolutely maintaining British commercial treaty rights and of extending them in every part of the world. Now, my Lord, many of us are of opinion, those of both political parties, that there has not been pursued by the British Government in the last few years as definite and as firm a policy in the conduct of foreign affairs as ought to have been pursued (hear, hear). I mean especially to refer to the series of humiliating surrenders of British commercial interests in that great mutual country, China, with its four hundred million people. (Hear, hear). Now, if the trade of China can be developed in the next 25 years to the same extent that the trade of Japan has been developed in the last 25 years, the foreign trade of China would be increased seven fold. I think I need not say one word more to show the

enormous possibilities of trade expansion as between that huge and richest empire in the world, that great empire of China, and the rest of the world.

Now, in the development of that trade, every part of the British Empire will participate. We have taken upon ourselves as a British nation to control the destinies of two hundred and fifty million of people in our great Indian dependency. Well, India does a large and important and increasing trade with China, and when I have in mind the fact that this great Dominion of Canada has a sea-board on the Pacific, I am sure that Canadians will not be content unless they in the future obtain a share of that trade with the Chinese Empire. The same is true with regard to Australasia. Therefore, in this resolution I find myself proposing a resolution in which not only the Mother Country, but the self-governing colonies and every part of the Empire are mutually concerned and interested. The policy of His Majesty's Government in regard to China has been a policy of the open door, the maintenance of equal opportunities for all nations to trade there. But unfortunately, though that has been the declared policy, we see the great danger of the trade opportunities of the British Empire in China being seriously curtailed.

We ought to have stood by Japan when Russia, France and Germany demanded her withdrawal from the Liao Chan peninsula, and insisted upon it on the part of all nations that it should be hands off so far as the integrity of China was concerned. Instead, that was followed by the German occupation of Liao Chan. And, instead of protesting against this, His Majesty's Government warmly endorsed it, and unasked, granted Germany a preference in connection with Chang Tung with its thirty millions of population. Then came the seizure of Port Arthur, and we know what the Russian situation is there to-day. I am not speaking without some personal knowledge of China, because my work in the House of Commons has been chiefly to advance the commercial interest of the Empire in that portion of the world. I have travelled in Manchuria and China also. On my last trip I travelled over 5,000 miles in the interior of China, and I tell you a better people cannot be found in the world. (Applause.) A more industrious people, a more trustworthy people cannot be found anywhere. True, they have their faults. They are guilty of severe cruelty of a barbarous character occasionally, but at the same time they have many good qualities, and the country is enormously rich, and has immense possibilities of commercial development. There has been an immense development of their trade with Russia, and Manchuria has become almost included commercially in the interest of that empire. New Chungking is the only commercial port of Manchuria. Instead of keeping it closed to the Russians we have allowed them to occupy it. She undertook to withdraw in April last. She is there to-day in full military occupation. That is the only treaty port of Manchuria, and through it British trade is carried on to the extent of £3,000,000 sterling annually with enormous possibilities of development.

One point to which I wish to refer is the action of the United States of America. Recently, Russia offered to give them certain preferential advantages in Manchuria behind the backs of the British nation and of other countries, but, to the credit of the United States, they refused to take any such advantage or make any such arrangement, and they declared that all nations must have equal opportunity to trade in Manchuria. (Applause.) At the present moment it appears to us that if joint concerted action can be taken by the United States of America, and the British and Japanese governments, they can secure the open door in China without any risk of war whatever. And I have urged upon His Majesty's Government the de-

sirability of seeking such concerted action in order to secure that no selfish preferential advantage shall be secured, but that all nations shall trade alike on equal terms in this great natural market. Now, the British trade with China has, unfortunately, declined. It has gone down 15 per cent. in the last five years. Our shipping has fallen 11 per cent., and at the same time the trade of the United States of America with China has increased three fold. The shipping of Germany has increased 12 per cent., and that of Japan 9 per cent., while that of Great Britain has declined, as I said, 11 per cent. That is a very unsatisfactory condition of affairs for us to have to consider. Take, for example, the question of railway concessions in China. We hear at present of the iron and steel trade being threatened with a period of depression. China, for the first time, is now engaged in supplying itself with a system of railways. The British Government told us that they had secured the British concessionaires the right to build twenty-eight hundred miles of railway in China, but only one small concession has yet been ratified, and whilst we therefore are doing practically nothing we find, on the other hand, that Russia, France, Belgium and Germany have been for years and are now busily engaged in laying down railways in China, and in connection with every railway concession which they have got, the most favored nation clause has been violated, because there is a stipulation that the whole of the railway material and rolling stock for each of these railways shall be drawn from the country of the respective concessionaires, to the absolute exclusion of the British producers and manufacturers. Is not that a most unsatisfactory condition of affairs? We have now a commercial treaty under negotiation with China. We learnt four years ago by the action of Germany, which threatened, and indeed, discriminated against Canada by reason of the preference which Canada gives to the British goods, how commercially we were in this danger. We were aware that France in her commercial treaties expressly stipulates that she shall be at liberty to make preferential arrangements with her colonies without being regarded as having violated the most favored nation clause against the rest of the world. I hold in my hand the recent treaty between Great Britain and Persia. It was only completed May 27th last, and in that treaty just completed I find these words:

"It is understood that the British Colony, having a special customs tariff which may cease to grant the most favored nation treatment to the Persian imports will no longer have the right to claim the same treatment for its imports into Persia."

Now, what do you think of the Foreign Office that with the example of Germany before them, can so recently complete a commercial treaty in such terms. The question of Persia is most important. I have travelled eighteen months ago throughout the northern part of Persia; Russia is predominant there. This is not a commercial treaty merely between Great Britain and Persia based upon Persian wishes, but it is a tariff which has been framed in the interest of the Russian government and Russian trade. Lancashire cotton which paid 5 per cent. under the former arrangement now pays 9 per cent. Indian tea now pays 100 per cent. instead of 5 per cent., and, on the other hand, Russian petroleum pays 3 1-2 per cent. instead of 5 per cent. Under the treaty, of course, all pay alike, but Russia has arranged so that the duties are lower upon the articles which she supplies than upon the commodities supplied by other nations. We had looked to our Government to support British commercial interests on different lines. Danger to Persia is danger to our Indian Empire. We have spent millions on the North Western frontier to safeguard India, but if we are to allow Russia to get the same predominant

influence in southern Persia, that she has already in northern Persia, you will have to put on the shoulders of the teeming millions of poverty stricken India a double cost for defensive forces. (Applause).

Therefore, I venture to say that the commercial and political interests of our country are absolutely and inseparably interwoven. I am warned by the Chairman that my time is almost gone, and I have not reached the second portion of my resolution, the Consular service. The Consular service has been inquired into recently by a committee of the House of Commons. I had the pleasure of giving evidence before that committee, and they have reported in the most satisfactory manner. They say: "In our opinion, the general Consular service, as it at present exists, offers no attraction to capable young men. It is not a properly constituted or graded public service, and offers no definite prospect of promotion to those who enter it, for men who are new to the service may be given appointments over the heads of others who have been there for years before them."

I admire that committee for the declaration it has given. It is nothing short of a scandal how men from the outside and from the diplomatic service have been pitchforked over the heads of those in service, and given the plums in the service. It is urgent that system should be reorganized and strengthened to make it more effective to the promotion of commercial interests of the British Empire, and the colonies should contribute towards the cost. It should be an Imperial service. (Hear, hear). India contributes towards it, and I would venture to suggest that British consuls give to-day equal assistance to the Canadian merchants that they give to British merchants, whenever the Canadians go to them. I would suggest it be reorganized so as to work in the interests of the British Empire in every part. We should take care that this recommendation be given effect to, and let it be made a service in which entries shall be by competition of the best equipped men, and they shall have secured such chances of promotion as will secure to the service the best men in the country. I have had opportunities in my travels of seeing a good deal of the consuls of other Powers, and I don't hesitate to say our consuls have had too much the idea that their main functions were diplomatic and political, and not commercial. The Board of Trade, the Foreign Office and the Commercial Intelligence Department, all interlap and are doing the work that the other does. We want the whole thing reorganized; one authority constituted on lines to the interest of British commerce, and not a divided responsibility as at present. I want to see British trade agents appointed in the British colonies. It is positively absurd that foreign countries have consuls in British colonies to promote their trade, and the Mother Country has none whatever. We need also a greater use of special commercial commissions and agents to travel in various undeveloped countries, and gather useful information for the Mother Country, the Colonies and British trade. I apologize for the length of time I have spoken, but the Congress will realize I have bracketed two resolutions to make them one and shorten the time of discussion.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Helm, of Manchester, will second the resolution. I regret to say that a seconder has only ten minutes in which to speak.

Mr. ELIJAH HELM (Manchester Chamber of Commerce): The resolution before the Congress draws attention to some practical reasons from which the commerce and industry of Great Britain suffer seriously, and I am quite sure the matter concerns every part of the Empire. The preservation of our trade rights has not, I am afraid, always received that care-

ful attention and strict adherence which is their due; but I wish to speak more especially upon the second part of the resolution. In the course of many years I have given close and constant attention to our consular reports on commerce and industry. I have also given close attention to the consular reports of the United States representatives abroad, and some considerable attention to those of France and Germany. In so far as our reports are concerned, with a few notable and valuable exceptions, they are perfunctory, and to a large extent almost worthless. ("Hear, hear.") You do meet with some brilliant exceptions, but as a rule they are of little or no use whatever to manufacturers and merchants and all who are interested in trade and commerce. If you ask for the cause, I should think more than anything else it is due to the fact that the consuls do not understand, and have no motive to investigate, the various questions with which they ought to deal. Will you pardon me if I say the subject has been long under the consideration of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. In 1883 it had a special committee to consider this question, and I, who was then a director of the Chamber, was upon that committee. One of the suggestions made was that every consul appointed to a foreign post in which any considerable British manufacturing commercial interest was done, should before his departure visit it and make himself acquainted with the products dealt in and with those engaged in dealing in them—that is twenty years ago. It has not been carried out, but I believe there is a disposition to do it, and at all events we are under peculiar circumstances, we from Manchester. We have somewhat seriously criticized the Consular reports. We have had the advantage of a visit from one of the Consuls on two or three occasions. One Consul in Russia wrote important statements in his reports which we knew to be absolutely unfounded—for example it was said that one of the great centres of Russia, a city next to Moscow in its manufacturing importance, seemed to be hardly known in England—why, I knew that at that moment nearly every cotton mill in that city was filled with Manchester machinery, and yet it was said that with regard to machinery Manchester men seemed to hardly know of the existence of the town, and so on and so on—and the statement was made—various charges were constantly brought against our manufacturers that they did not understand the market, that they did not give credit, that they did not study the wants of the consumers, etc. Now these are utterly fallacious because I do not believe that there is anywhere in the world a city where the organization of foreign commerce is so complete as it is in Manchester. (Hear, hear.)

Well, the result was that this criticism reached the Consul, and he had been invited in the criticism to come and visit Manchester where he would see how far the statements were unfounded. He came and we gathered together in the Chamber; all the merchants and manufacturers who were interested in the trade with that particular place, and then, the Consul learned some things that he had never known before but which he ought to have known.

One practical suggestion that we have to offer is that we should urge upon the Government first of all before appointing a man for a particular place, that he should be obliged to learn before going out, not only the nature of the trade, but that he should make the acquaintance of those who conduct it. Secondly that the time of these men should be so arranged that they should have an opportunity of visiting those centres at home which are particularly interested in the trade with the places where they are officially resident.

Now, I think I have advanced sufficient to show that this resolution is well worthy the hearty and unanimous

support of the whole Congress, and I have great pleasure in seconding it.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** The committee to consider the question of the preferential tariff resolution will meet at 11.30 in No. 2 Committee Room.

**COLONEL PONTON (Belleville Board of Trade):** My Lord and Gentlemen: It may seem somewhat presumptuous that a comparatively young Canadian not having nearly as much experience as many of you gentlemen here, who have travelled the world over, should allude to this important subject; but it is suggested to me on account of my military experience as a cavalry man and an infantry man and also an artillery man in the nation's wars, and then in the commissariat department, and then in that department that was the one department lacking and which was a very important one indeed, and which has seemed more important still during the last few years, namely the intelligence department.

Now, I believe if the consuls are what they ought to be—the ambassadors of trade—they will act as the intelligence department of this great Empire. I may also be perhaps excused from speaking because I am in somewhat an anomalous position. I am a loyal British subject and the possessor of a long service medal, yet I am at the same time American Vice-Consul at Belleville, and although comparatively young in years, I have had a long experience in that position. I have lived through many diplomatic changes without the possibility of differences, because those Vice-Consuls, as you know, only take the place of the regular Consuls during their absence,—they lend of course dignity and weight and local support to the office. (Hear, hear, and laughter.)

Let me introduce my point just in this way, that although to-day I am not an old man, yet I was appointed by President Garfield. Think of it you representatives of a big monarchy—think of it representatives of despotic tyrannies, two Presidents of the United States have been assassinated since I was appointed Vice-Consul of the United States of America. I feel that these ambassadors of trade may be made use of in this way—they may report not only on commerce and on trade, but they may report on immigration. They may prevent from their centres where they are situated the export of diseased immigrants to both the British Islands and the British Colonies. They may prevent those suffering from trachoma and leprosy and other noxious diseases from coming to our countries—they may prevent also those suffering from that worst of all disease—that world-wide disease, anarchy—and if the Consuls exercised that power—and I believe they may exercise it, with discrimination, its effect would be wide felt and they would specially protect their own land. They have often used their powers, but the time is coming when Great Britain, as well as Canada, will have to discriminate in the character of her immigrants. Don't turn them away from our shores, but appoint officers at the points from which they come to stop their import if they are unfitted to become fellow-citizens with us. That is one of the great advantages I believe that the Consuls could afford. But there are other duties of a diplomatic nature which they might fulfill equally as well. Being ambassadors of trade, Consuls may protect business and lubricate business difficulties—they may very often act as the oil on the troubled waters of business difficulties.

Let me illustrate, Great Britain is a great Empire, sending her ships here and sending her ships there, and, I think we might also send our Consuls to different parts of the world.

They could go as the Sunbeam has gone, all over the world, and exercise the powers of a sunbeam, namely, the lighting powers and the warming powers, the friendly powers that other sunbeams have exercised.



We hear a great deal about the man behind the gun. Well, the man behind the gun is only called on to act in times of war, but "peace has her victories, no less renowned than those of war." (Applause). We have a monarch and a king that stands for Empire. (Hear, hear.) I believe that the man behind the flag is as important as the man behind the gun, and while the flag represents symbolically all that is great in Empire, its prestige and its history and all the heritage that we colonists enjoy, as well as those who live at home, still the Consul who carries that flag and who represents that flag is the living embodiment of that Empire and its representative. Canada, of course, has no Consuls, but Canadians are vitally interested in this matter, because a British Consul to be a British Consul must represent the colonies as well as represent the Empire.. (Applause.)

What are other nations doing? The United States are not slow. They are not a self-contained country in this respect. They are a most ambitious country, the most progressive country of modern times. I am not going to defy them. I am not going to take our examples from them, but what are they doing in their Consular service? Do you ever see the Consular reports of Great Britain? What is the difference? Everybody sees the Consular reports of the United States. Surely, if they are worth anything they are worth publishing. The Consular reports of the United States are not pigeon-holed in Washington. They are sent broadcast to the manufacturers and to every man interested in industries.

What are the Germans doing? In South America the German press is working and the United States press is also working. I have in my hand here the monthly bulletin of the International Bureau of American Republics—which is the monthly bulletin of all the Consular reports of South America, and all the trades agents. It is printed and published every month and circulated broadcast in French, Spanish and English, and that is the way the United States are working. They identify all the American republics and hold them together. Now, I believe, that that is what the British Consular work should be and I believe we can do our duty by our Empire in urging in this way upon the Imperial Government the appointment of such men as the American Government are appointing to represent their flag. What is their ideal? It is this:—"A Consul is, in a certain sense, the representative of a country. To the people among whom he is stationed and to the local authorities he is the impersonation of his Government. He should be a man of dignity of self-possession, of good address and bearing, of tact and discretion, who should command the respect and confidence of foreign merchants and officials, and who should be honored by his travelling countrymen." (Applause.)

MR. T. V. S. ANGLIER, London, England, (Ex-President Chamber of Shipping of United Kingdom): My Lord and Gentlemen: I believe every one will agree with me when I say that the more men we have in this great Empire like Mr. Joseph Walton, the better for the Empire. (Hear, hear). He is a man who has given a vast portion of his life to personally learning about every quarter of our great foreign possessions, and places where we trade. His work has covered as I said, an enormous amount of time. Where can you find a man to give up so much of his time and make such sacrifices for the general good. Our tribute to him I think should be recorded and certainly every one of us feel and appreciate the value of the results of his work. (Hear, hear).

Manchester, of course, is always to the fore. In fact,

what Lancashire does to-day, as a rule, England adopts to-morrow. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Helm is one of that lot, too, but I think of all the gentlemen who have spoken on this subject, the flower will be given to the gallant Colonel Ponton, who couples together oratory, poetry and common sense.

Now gentlemen, I suppose there is no class of men who have closer connections with these Consuls abroad than the ship owner. His captains go all over the world; his experience with these men is therefore wide and close. Unfortunately we must thoroughly and in detail endorse every complaint made by the proposer of the resolution. We have to shove the Consuls to get them to move. They are a dignified lot. They are not accustomed to the rough and tumble of trade and they don't accept that as their duty. They have never yet realized their actual position—what it should be. Now, I take it, and the gallant Colonel will agree with me that they are adjutants, and the adjutant, as a rule, of the regiment is the man who has to do the whole of the work. He has to teach, he has to lead, and he has to obey—he is in fact, a general bottle washer, and that is the kind of men we want in our Consular service. We don't want these diplomatic men, men who look entirely on the political side of their work. We want them to be men of experience in trade at all events, men who will learn every detail of trade in the work they are sent to do, and they need to be men who will take up and assist every member of the country for which they act, and above all, the shipping and commercial members of that unit. The whole service, as Mr. Joseph Walton has said, wants remodelling in the mode of the appointment of the men and their duties, in order to redraft the whole business and bring it more in consonance with the commercial duties for which they are mainly appointed and have to serve.

I am in thorough accord with the resolution and I hope it will receive the hearty approval of this Congress. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: Will you allow me to propose the name of Mr. Swanzy, of London, as the next speaker, in view of the fact that at half-past eleven he has to meet a committee with which he has matters to discuss of great importance.

MR. SWANZY (London Chamber): Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: My excuse for taking part in this discussion is that I want to mention another instance where if Treaty rights had been maintained British trade would not have been sacrificed. I refer to West Africa and the trade of the Congo Free State and the French Congo. Many here will probably know as much about the facts of the French Congo and the Congo Free State as I do, but it comes home to me; I am a British merchant and we feel very strongly that if our Government and the Governments of other powers had maintained the conditions, had insisted upon the conditions of the Act of Berlin being maintained, we would not be in the position we are in to-day. (Hear, hear).

There was a trade established by the enterprise of British merchants and the freedom of that trade was guaranteed throughout the basin of the Congo. But the Congo Free State, and I think the French Government, have granted concessions to certain concessionaires—practically the ownership of the whole soil,—and what is the result? The natives are obliged to sell rubber and what they get from the soil, to these concessionaires, and British merchants have actually been proceeded against, men who, as I said before, have built up this trade, have been proceeded against as having no right, there and they are not being allowed to buy the rubber and so forth from the natives.

Well, I am thankful to say that our Government are taking this matter up now and I am quite sure



they will be assisted by the Governments of Germany and the United States. Our own associated Chambers of Commerce passed a resolution on the subject about six months ago, and I do think that something may be done in the matter, but I was anxious to refer to this question, as it is one very strong point—an instance where it is absolutely necessary that treaty rights should be respected. This question, the system of these concessionaire companies, is a bad system—it is a system of monopoly, and as Mr. Walton has referred to the open door in China, so we African merchants maintain that we want the open door in West Africa. (Hear, hear.) The resources of the country are enormous, and it will form a great outlet for the productions I see coming to us, not only of Great Britain, but of the Empire.

I have therefore the greatest possible pleasure in supporting this resolution from this point of view. Of course I am as much with it in regard to the Consular service, as I have been in foreign countries, and I appreciate very fully the necessity of our getting fuller and better information from our Consuls, and also the necessity for their reports being properly published. (Applause).

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Edgar Tripp, of Trinidad.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP (West India Committee): My Lord and Gentlemen: With regard to the latter part of this resolution I think we shall all agree on this that it is well to have the resolution as broad as possible with regard to the necessity of the Consular service of Great Britain paying a little more attention to the trade of the Empire than it has hitherto done.

As Consul for Sweden and Norway in Trinidad and knowing something of what Consuls for foreign countries do in a colony, I can fully endorse all that has been said with regard to the detailed information as to the trade of the particular station to which they may be deputed which is given by foreign Consuls. As Commercial Agent for Canada, a position which I had the honor to hold in Trinidad, I can also state how the Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce is constantly calling upon me for every possible detail that may be of interest to Canadian trade, and it was only the other day that, after occupying that position for twelve years I got my first, I think well deserved, rap over the knuckles, when Sir Richard Cartwright gently insinuated to me that if I gave him a little less politics and more trade, he would prefer it.

Sir, I am not speaking on this subject so much with regard to the second part of the resolution; it is with regard to the first part, namely, that His Majesty's Government should rigorously enforce the Treaty rights, commercial treaty rights. Now, it is a far cry from the gigantic trade of the East to our poor little trade down in the West Indies, and although I am pleased to say that Trinidad does a trade of between five and six millions sterling, still as this gigantic trade of the East has come via the Congo down to us in the West, I feel a little more confidence in speaking about it. Now, Trinidad has a special grievance with regard to the failure of His Majesty's Government to maintain treaty rights in a matter in which she is particularly affected.

I referred to this question seven years ago at a Congress in London, and I regret to say there is even greater reason to refer to the same matter to-day than there was at that time. In 1881 Blanco, then President of Venezuela, having, for reasons of his own, a particular spite against the Island of Trinidad, gave notice of a decree whereby an extra thirty per cent. duty would be put upon all goods imported into Venezuela from the British Colonies. He called it "the British Colonies," but he knew perfectly well that the only British Colony which would be affected would be the

Island of Trinidad. On October 19th, 1881, the Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad, to which I belong, gave notice to the Government that the decree was about to be put in force, and notified the Government also as to the possible consequence to Trinidad. The Government replied that Her Majesty's Government had notified the Venezuela Government that they objected to the application of the law in the case of goods imported from the West Indies. On December 31st, a letter was received from the Colonial Secretary saying that the question was engaging the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government. On the 22nd of June, 1882, in spite of the attention that had been in the meantime given to it, the Chamber had occasion to notify the Government that the decree had been put in force since the third of May and the ruinous consequences were already but too apparent. Then in November of 1883, the Chamber petitioned the Secretary of State detailing the efforts that had been made to obtain an abrogation of the decree, and giving figures showing the falling off in exports owing to the extra duty imposed, of seventy per cent. In 1884, the Colonial Secretary wrote that the Secretary of State "desires the Chamber to be informed that Her Majesty's Government have repeatedly pressed and are still pressing the Government of Venezuela to remove the differential duty." That was on the second of January. In the month of February, 1884, in the House of Commons, answering Mr. Anderson, Lord Fitzmaurice said:—

"Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that the duties in question are in violation of the treaty of 1825. Negotiations for a settlement are in progress, but there has been a certain delay owing to their being no representative in this country."

That was in 1884, namely 20 years ago. In 1887, the Colonial Secretary sent the following letter: "The Secretary of State desires the Government to inform the Chamber of Commerce that when the time arrives for discussing the various questions pending between England and Venezuela, the matter of the differential duty of 30 per cent. imposed by the latter will be borne in mind."

In 1887, the negotiations regarding the 30 per cent. differential duty had been suspended in consequence of the interruption of diplomatic relations. So said Sir J. Fergusson, in replying to a question put by Mr. Watt, in the House of Commons.

In 1889, Lord Knutsford wrote the administrator of Trinidad, regarding further representations from the Chamber as follows: "Her Majesty's Government has carefully considered the representations and will not fail to take advantage of any opportunity favorable for putting an end to the present unsatisfactory state of things."

From 1889 to 1893, our Chamber of Commerce was continually pressing on the Government for the abrogation of this duty which they had 10 years before declared to be in violation of the treaty. In 1894, the Secretary for the Colonies replying to Sir Howard Vincent, then Colonel Vincent, who was putting the question on behalf of our Chamber of Commerce, said: "The present moment was unpropitious for reopening negotiations with Venezuela and that therefore the duty of 30 per cent. continued." In the same year there was a letter from Lord Ripon to myself regretting "That the state of the relations between this country and Venezuela has heretofore prevented anything being done to remove the burden of the extra duty imposed, but the matter had not been lost sight of, and he fully recognized the importance of it."

In 1895, a similar question was put and answered. In 1896, the Chamber asked the Governor that in view of pending negotiations between Great Britain and Venezuela, the Governor would not fail to remind the Secre-

tary of State for the Colonies, of the promises made by successive ministers of the Crown that the vexed question of the extra impost would be brought forward for settlement together with the boundary question as soon as diplomatic relations between the two countries were renewed. This correspondence went on from 1897. Even Mr. Chamberlain wrote in 1897, in reply to the representations made through the Governments: "Mr. Chamberlain has requested that the Chamber of Commerce be informed that the question has not been lost sight of." (Laughter).

Several delegates—time.

MR. TRIPP: Five years have passed, there have been constant negotiations, with diplomatic relations resumed in the meantime, but nothing has been done. The boundary question has been settled without any mention of the duty, and there is apparently no intention of tackling it now that all other and minor questions are being considered with a view of final settlement. That extra impost is still in force and probably will remain, unless something comes as an outcome of the adoption of this resolution.

MR. CHARLES LANCASTER (Liverpool Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I will not occupy the time of the Congress more than a couple of minutes, merely to say that with the reputation of Mr. Walton, better known in Parliament as the member for China. (Laughter).

THE CHAIRMAN: And a large constituency it is too.

MR. LANCASTER: The proposal that I should speak in support of the resolution of the Barnsley Chamber of Commerce was very readily agreed to. It is not necessary at this late hour to go over the argument of preceding speakers. I merely want to say this, that the Consular system of Great Britain was intended to advance the commerce of Great Britain, and though the diplomatic ability of the gentlemen who act as Consuls and Consular agents, is without question, as befitting their education and their station in life, it is, perhaps, to be regretted that a greater number of these gentlemen have not been drawn from circles acquainted with commerce, and that landowners and members of the aristocracy seem to have the pull. That is a domestic matter which, no doubt, under the pressure of changed conditions and circumstances in Great Britain, will correct itself. Let me say this: We are continually having complaints of the inaptitude, and many people in the United Kingdom use strong language at English Consuls and Consular agents. I will give you one instance. An English manufacturer in a large way, wished to obtain an exact description of certain matters, in which a high officer under President Garfield, was interested—a gentleman whose military service on Canadian soil I need not refer to—he wrote to our Consul; I will not name the country. He received a somewhat indignant reply from the Consul to the effect that he was not in commerce, and the letter concluded with a polite request for five pence postage for sending the reply. There was another case where a merchant had a dispute with a German trader and he wrote to the Consul at the place. He found that, that gentleman being away, he had referred the question to the German Consul, and therefore, our friend found himself in the extraordinary position of having his case adjudicated upon by the German Consul. I will say no more. We should spend more on scientific enquiry into trade conditions, and we hope the Government will do it. There is much money spent nowadays, but none on scientific enquiry into trade conditions. Is it any wonder, our trade is imperilled? Is it not a wonder that in view of all these circumstances our trade remains as great as it is?

MR. J. L. POLLOCK (British Chamber of Commerce,

Paris): My Lord and Gentlemen: It is not my intention to inflict a speech upon you. It is often said that brevity is the soul of wit. I do not pretend to be a wit, but I will be brief. What I would suggest, is an amendment to the original motion, to add the following words after the word "imports"; "To other countries, other than Great Britain and her colonies." This will provide that they may be able to give most favored nation treatment to Great Britain and the colonies. And this would make a most important difference in the treaty. I think, therefore, that these words should be suggested to the Government as being proper to be put into all future treaties. That is all I have to say with regard to the Persian treaty. But there is one reason why this is absolutely necessary, and I would explain it to you in a few words. Our self-governing colonies make certain treaties, either with Great Britain or with others, and as they are independent, Great Britain could not put in such a clause as Mr. Walton demands because the colonies make special treaties and it is absolutely necessary in this respect that they should have their independence. This clause would leave them independent and at the same time bind foreign countries; that is the point I wish to make.

With regard to the Consular service, there is a matter upon which I wish to touch and I will be brief. I will just bring before you some of the facts as they present themselves to me. We have had mentioned Mr. Tripp, who is Consul for Sweden and Norway and commercial agent for Canada. He is neither a Swede nor a Norwegian. This is the kind of thing we have complained of in France. There, we have sometimes German representatives of Great Britain. All kinds of people and all nationalities are appointed to represent Great Britain abroad. There should be a rule that no one can be a British Consul or vice-Consul unless he is a British subject. (Applause.) I think that is the first point to be noticed because it is from the Consul that we must get our first information and it is upon him that we must largely depend. My colleague suggests to add that no British subject should be a Consul of any other country. I think, perhaps, he is right in that. The one, I suppose, follows from the other. Another point is that Consuls are not the men who should be required to make commercial reports, it is not their business. In France we had a good deal of trouble to get two or three extra Consuls appointed at Lille and some other large cities where there were no Consuls or commercial agents at all. What we want is commercial agents, and these also must be British subjects. Some years ago I went down to Limoges, which is a large centre for porcelain manufacture, as you know. There I was introduced to an American; he went to the commercial agents of the United States and they gave him all the information as to the manufacture and the quality of the goods. We have nothing of that kind, and that is what we want. The greatest commercial country in the world is the worst off with regard to the collection of information. Members of Parliament should get their information from Chambers of Commerce and large manufacturers, but, instead of doing so they often get it, I don't know how. It should come from the sources where it can be best and most accurately obtained. The French have chambers which will give you the smallest and most minute information on commercial products. We do not ask for this, but we do think that there should be improvement on our present commercial system in this respect. I support the resolution with the greatest pleasure.

LORD BRASSEY: Having regard to the extent of our programme and the limited time which is available for dealing with it, I think I ought to take the sense of the meeting as to whether we should proceed with further discussion of the subject with which we have

been thus far dealing with this morning. (Calls of "Vote, vote.")

Mr. J. X. PERRAULT (Montreal Chambre de Commerce): There are two other resolutions dealing with the matter not exactly in the same sense, and which are very important, where we recommend the appointment of commercial agents from colonies in the different parts of the world. We do not refer to the British Consuls at all, but we think Canada is big enough and important enough to have its own commercial Consula. We do not propose to be satisfied with the gentlemen who have taken twenty years to answer that they would take it into consideration. (Laughter.)

LORD BRASSEY: I have to ask the gentlemen if they wish to hear more speeches on the resolution.

No one rising to speak, the resolution was put and carried unanimously.

LORD BRASSEY: I will now call upon Mr. Rosamond to offer resolution No. 25.

#### COMMERCIAL AGENTS.

Mr. BENNETT ROSAMOND, M.P. (Canadian Manufacturers' Association): The resolution I have to move is as follows:—

"That while the present consular service of the Empire is to be commended, this Congress is of opinion that an effort should be made to have it supplemented by the establishment of international commercial Consuls, and that the standing of these should be recognized by the British Consuls throughout the Empire."

You will notice in the first part it says: "The present Consular service of the Empire is to be commended." Speaking from a Canadian standpoint, I have no doubt the British Consuls have been a great benefit to the Canadian export trade, but I am advised the service is not exactly what it should be, and that it is open to the charge that these things are better done in Germany and the United States than in our Consular service. I think I might say it is not the state of things which should be, so far as the Empire is concerned. I think I am correct in saying that the keynote of the present Congress is the drawing together, if I might say so, of the whole of the British Empire. I think if we had a more extensive Consular service, an intercolonial service, that is, Consuls appointed by each colony, and representing them in the other colonies, such a service would be of very great benefit to the whole of the British Empire. There is nothing more evident to anyone than that at the present time, there is a great deal of ignorance prevailing in the Empire regarding the other portions of it. Many of you will be able to recall rather amusing instances of this ignorance which exists. A rather amusing incident occurred not long ago. A British merchant, in sending a parcel of goods to one of the seaport towns of the Atlantic coast of Canada, enclosed it in another parcel for a man in Vancouver, and asked his correspondent to be kind enough to hand it to him. (Laughter.) You will agree with me that it was an instance of great ignorance on the part of the British exporter. He did not seem to know that three thousand miles separated one city from the other. It would be of very great benefit to the exporters of Canada if they had the advantage of knowledge such as might be afforded by Canadian Consuls for, say, Australia, South Africa or the various dependencies of the British Empire. The information to be derived from their reports would be of invaluable benefit to exporters here. There is one thing that might be said with reference to the appointment of these Consuls, with which I think you will all agree—that the trade between Great Britain and Canada has not increased in the proportion that one would expect, when we consider the preference given by Canada to Great Britain in her tariff. As a matter of fact, the exports from

Great Britain to Canada have not increased in the same proportion that the exports from the United States to Canada have, and that notwithstanding the preference given by Canada to Great Britain in her tariff. If the Consular service was an up-to-date service, such as the Consuls of the United States and the German Empire have, with the knowledge they give to their Mother countries, I am quite sure the trade between Great Britain and Canada would have increased in the same proportion, if not in a larger proportion, than it has done from the United States. I do not think I need follow up the argument, because it must be apparent to all that an intercolonial service would be of very great benefit to all sides, and as such, I hope it will commend itself to your favor.

HON. ALPHONSE DESJARDINS (Chambre de Commerce du district de Montreal): Mr. President and Gentlemen: I have the honor this morning to bring to your attention a very important matter which is embodied in the following resolution unanimously adopted by our Chamber and since approved of by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The resolution is in these terms.

Be it resolved, "That the Imperial Government be requested to recognize and accredit to the foreign governments, commercial agents appointed by the colonies, with such instructions and powers as may be necessary to protect and promote the commercial interest of said colonies."

The object of this resolution is to remove as much as possible one of the disabilities which, under our colonial status, have most unfavourably affected our growth and retarded our progress. It is needless to tell you that until lately little was known of the colonies in Great Britain, and Canadians who have been travelling through the world have not been long in becoming convinced for themselves that Canada is, in many of the most important commercial centres, a kind of terra incognita. Perhaps it is not presuming too much to think that a certain number amongst the distinguished members of this Congress, until the time when they made up their mind to cross the Atlantic and began to study their Baedaker, had meagre notions of things relating to Canada.

Under the present regime the Colonial Governments have not the right to appoint consuls or even accredit any officer to foreign countries, but would the Imperial Government refuse recognition to such officers if it was represented to them that the appointment of them would only supplement what the instructions of the British Consuls do not now cover? To these Imperial officers and to their willingness in assisting any colonial subjects who have ever required her services we give full credit, but they can only benefit individual or limited interests. The most important part of the mission of the Consul could not be made available to us, because that officer had not the necessary information regarding our conditions and trade. The British Consul looking through the affairs of his own country is well informed, but as a rule he has no knowledge of the conditions in the colonies. In each of them there exists a fiscal policy completely distinct from that of the Motherland; they have their own Customs regulations, and their situation in different parts of the world creates diverse conditions, which their own producers or manufacturers have not to meet. To be of assistance to the Canadian producer in foreign markets, they have to be able to inform us as to the kind of goods wanted and the competition those goods have to meet.

As regards Canada lying alongside a powerful and aggressive competitor, with producers of goods similar to those in this country, we must stand in a position of equality with them as to the service of Consular representatives abroad. The Americans admit themselves that they owe in a great part, their success in



the markets of the world against their most powerful trade rivals to the keenness and business activity of their Consular officers, who act in a manner as commercial travellers for their country.

In support of this let me quote to you what Mr. Frederic Emory, Chief of the Bureau of Foreign Commerce in the American Department of State, has to say on this matter. He says:—

"Undoubtedly much of our progress in recent years is due to the keen business instinct and activity of our Consular officers at most of the industrial centers of Europe. Whatever the deficiencies of our Consular service, it can no longer be denied that it is of great and constantly increasing utility to our industry and commerce, and its work has become the object of envy and emulation on the part of Governments whose Consular establishments were at one time considered to be far superior. In reporting upon new inventions and manufacturing processes especially, the Consuls have supplied a great mass of valuable data to our developing industries, and their zeal and ingenuity in obtaining such information which in many instances was jealously guarded by the European manufacturers have been so keen, so searching, so indefatigable as to be a matter of bitter complaint on the part of foreign industrial interests. If there is an opportunity for the introduction of American goods, or an obstacle to be overcome, the Consuls as a rule may be trusted to report the fact, and the information is immediately printed by the Department of State and given to the public. Notwithstanding the serious drawbacks of political appointments and insecurity of tenure, the service shows a very general and steady improvement in its commercial work, and it seems capable of being made as unapproachable as it is already conceded to be, by the best foreign opinion and unequalled instrument of trade. At most of the great commercial and manufacturing centers of Europe our Consular representatives fully justify the encomiums passed upon them by a German economist as "vigilant sentinels who spy out every trade opening for advantage and promptly report upon it."

Nothing proves more the importance attached by other countries to the service rendered by Consuls and commercial agents than what we can see here in this country. And in the report of the Secretary of State for the last fiscal year, we find that in Canada alone there are nearly five hundred Consuls, Vice-consuls and commercial agents, who have been appointed by foreign countries and have registered with the Secretary of State. They are spread all over Canada, studying our commerce and pointing out openings for trade to their own people. Out of that number one hundred and eighty-eight are sent here by the United States. These men know all about our way of trading, while we have no one in their country to tell us what they are doing and advise our business men how to meet their competition. It is no wonder the United States can show such a result as the figures given in their trade returns. The exports for the nine months ending March 31, last, were of agricultural products \$713,000,000, of forests \$41,000,000, of fisheries \$7,000,000 and of manufactures \$219,000,000. If better situated to compete with them we could most likely have a share of this great trade, if in the markets where they find a sale for their goods we had commercial agents. Our products are as good and even better than those of the United States. Our ambition does not stop at producing and selling raw materials alone; we desire to place our manufactures, the finished product of our raw materials in every country in the world. Already our exports are to be found in every country, but we could vastly increase them if we had commercial agents there to advise us on the conditions of those markets, and the openings for trade.

An objection could be raised that if commercial agents were appointed by the Colonial Governments their functions might clash with those of British Consuls, but would it not be as possible to avoid that and to have these interests worked in harmony as it was possible after the experience obtained from former treaties to bring the Imperial Government to join with their own plenipotentiaries chosen in the colonies themselves whenever these colonies were interested in the framing of treaties with foreign nations. Nothing can show more the difficulties of our position than that when not so represented Canada was compelled to lose a territory covering almost the whole State of Maine by the terms of what is known as the Ashburton Treaty. The unfortunate consequences of that treaty are felt more and more and have cost this country millions of dollars already. It would not enter the mind of any Imperial Cabinet minister to-day to refuse representation to Canada or any other colony in the negotiation of the treaty when the interests of that colony were at stake. So if it has been recognized as useful and practical to bring Colonial commissioners to determine upon the terms of a treaty, commercial or otherwise, it is but logical to say that it would be useful and practical to the same degree to have Consuls or commercial agents of our own appointed when we want to control and oversee the working out of that treaty.

Our foreign commerce, exports and imports included, amounted last year to \$425,000,000. Our exports alone amounted to about \$211,000,000, and it is acknowledged that we are only at the starting point. When we consider the opening of extensive territories, the increase in our production and the influx of emigration which is going to add to our foreign production, we can understand what a future is before us. We see what vast possibilities of increase in our foreign trade there would be if like the United States producer our producers had all the assistance which the Consular system has obtained for our trade rivals. Although the adoption of such a policy would seem to be more in the interest of the colonies we take it that the great object of this Congress is to promote the interests of all parts of the Empire and bring them all into harmony, so that the greatest benefit will accrue to the whole Empire. We hope therefore, that this resolution will meet with the approval of this Congress and will lead to our Government taking steps to adopt such a policy and appoint Consular agents or commercial agents abroad.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lancaster, of Liverpool, rises to a point of order.

Mr. LANCASTER (Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: The point of order to which I desire to draw your attention is this, that resolution number 24, which was passed with acclamation, provides that the Consular service should be reorganized, and provides a means calculated to make it more effective for the protection of the trade of the British Empire. Now, I would say that resolutions numbers 25 and 26 are in direct conflict, with the resolution we have just unanimously carried, putting it in the mildest way possible. These two resolutions will seriously interfere with the spirit and intention of the resolution we have just unanimously adopted, and I would therefore ask you, sir, as the Chairman of this Congress, to rule whether resolutions 25 and 26 are strictly in order, leaving aside altogether the other question as to whether it is desirable to have views or specific suggestions made in support of numbers 25 and 26, for I am perfectly safe in saying that there is no desire on any part, nor on the part of any honorable delegate present to suppress the utterance of any suggestions. These are very useful suggestions, but I submit that on a point of order the wording of

the resolutions is not compatible and I would respectfully appeal to the chair to rule upon that point.

The CHAIRMAN (Lord Brassey): Gentlemen: I have been appealed to for a judgment on the point of order raised by Mr. Lancaster. I am of the opinion that the resolution now being moved is in conflict with the one which you have already passed unanimously.

The resolution was accordingly declared out of order.

#### LIGHT DUES.

Mr. T. M. HEYWOOD (Cardiff Chamber of Commerce): Mr. President and Gentlemen: On behalf of the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce and also on behalf of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, I rise to move the two resolutions. The first one you will find on page 25, under the heading of "Light dues." It reads as follows:

"That the Congress take the necessary steps to again call the attention of the British Government to the desirability of abolishing the Light Dues in accordance with the recommendation of the select committee of the House of Commons upon the steamship subsidies, which was recently published."

The other resolution you will find on page 35, and this reads:

"That it is detrimental to the interests of the Merchant Shipping of the United Kingdom and her colonies that Light Dues should continue to be levied upon shipping in the United Kingdom, and that His Majesty's Government be respectfully requested to give effect to the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on shipping subsidies, viz.:—That with a view to the fair competition of British ship owners with their foreign rivals (inter alia) Light Dues should be abolished."

My Lord and Gentlemen, I think it is unnecessary to take up the time of this Congress in bringing before you the numerous arguments which might be adduced in favor of the total abolition of Light Dues. This subject has been discussed at previous conferences.

In 1900 the Montreal Board of Trade brought forward a similar resolution. The Chambers of Shipping throughout the Empire have taken up the matter, and therefore, I think it unnecessary to do more than to move these two resolutions. Certainly His Majesty's Government has lately made a small concession in favor of Light Dues, but, My Lord, I believe shipowners and this Congress will not be contented until the whole of the Light Dues are abolished, and the charge placed upon the consolidated fund. Therefore, with these few remarks, I will move the resolution, which I am glad to say will be seconded by a member of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom and supported by the Montreal Board of Trade.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. James Cormack, of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom will second the resolution.

Mr. JAMES CORMACK (Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, Leith): My Lord President and Gentlemen: With a view of saving the time of the Congress I have agreed with my Cardiff friends that instead of taking up the resolution of the Chamber of Shipping which is printed on page 35, we should take it up along with the Cardiff resolution, because they are practically to the same effect. It will not be necessary for me to occupy your time more than a very few minutes in seconding this resolution which has been proposed. The question of Light Dues is one which has interested and engaged the attention of the Chambers of Shipping and of Commerce in the United Kingdom for a good many years past, and the question of abolition is one which has been recommended by several Royal Commissions and Parliamentary Committees, for many years past, the last being no later than last year, when a special select committee upon shipping subsidies recommended this measure among other recommendations, namely, that Light Dues ought to be

abolished, and we base this claim, I may say briefly, upon three considerations, namely, that it is the duty—It is the high Imperial duty of the Government to properly light and mark our coast—(Hear, hear)—and to do that at the public expense and not at the expense of any particular industry such as the shipping industry. I claim this also upon another ground; namely, that it is most desirable, as this Committee has already pointed out, to relieve the shipping industry from the disabilities and disadvantages which undoubtedly press upon us with undue force in comparison with the freer conditions under which our foreign rivals carry on their trade. I think that is an argument which ought to appeal to us all, and I claim it also on the ground of justice, that it is not right that we should be thus saddled with those expenses. It was all very well when the shipping industry was a protected industry, to exact those expenses from it, but now that all protection has been withdrawn from the British shipping, when our ports are thrown open to all our rivals in the world, it is undoubtedly a question of bare justice that the shipping industry should be relieved of this special tax.

I recognize that Canada has a special grievance in connection with this matter—(hear, hear)—because we remember that Canada maintains a free light service while in comparison with United States which also maintains a free light service but which discriminates—I say the United States discriminates against British shipping simply on the ground that we charge light dues at home, and I therefore see quite well that our Canadian shipowners have a distinct grievance that they should maintain a free service and yet that their ships should be charged light dues in the United States ports, and the consequence is that the British shipping in the United States ports pay tonnage dues, special discriminating tonnage dues to the extent of about from sixty to eighty thousand pounds a year, and all we get out of our light tax from American shipping is something like five thousand a year, so that you see the balance is very much against us, and in favor of America.

Gentlemen, I have no intention to prolong my remarks. It may be within the knowledge of most of us present that there was a bill introduced into Parliament last year by Mr. McArthur, one of the members for Liverpool, for the purpose of abolishing light dues, and that that bill was very largely supported, but was defeated by a majority of eleven votes, the vote being something like 113 as compared with 124, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer made a very strong statement in opposition to the bill, and it, accordingly was lost.

Now, I think it is quite clear that the Government ought to do one of two things,—they ought to take over the expense and administration of the lighting of the coasts themselves. They ought to do that, but failing that, they ought undoubtedly to give to the shipping interests a fair and a reasonable representation upon the administrative boards, which at present they have not. These boards are entirely composed of men in no way—some of them perhaps accidentally—but in no way representative of the shipping interests, and yet the whole expense is placed upon the shipping industry. Gentlemen, I hold that that is not what ought to be, and therefore, I say it is the duty of the Government either to take over the whole matter and administer it in the best way they can or else give the shipping interests a potential voice in the administration of these funds. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution which has been proposed by Cardiff.

Mr. ROBERT REFORM (Member Montreal Board of Trade and Corn Exchange): As a Canadian shipowner and shipping agent, I have great pleasure in en-



dorsing this resolution. These English light dnes have been long a grievance to Canadian shippers and I am sure the removal of them will be held by the Canadian ship-owners and Canadian agents as a great boon to Canada, and will unite us all the closer to the Empire to which we belong. I heartily endorse what has been said in favor of the removal, and hope that the Congress will see fit to pass the resolution and recommend the removal of these ducs.

**LORD BRASSEY:** Those who are in favor of the resolution of light ducs please signify the same in the usual manner.

**A DELEGATE:** May I ask if both resolutions are before the meeting?

**LORD BRASSEY:** Both are before the meeting. The representative of the Chamber of Shipping seconded the resolution of the Cardiff Chamber.

The resolutions were carried by a large majority.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I next call upon Mr. Parkes, member of Parliament from Birmingham.

**A DELEGATE:** With the permission of the chair I would like to make the following announcement. Would the Canadian delegates who are interested in the commercial relations committee kindly adjourn to the Committee Room, as we have a very important matter to put before them.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** It is very unfortunate that the place of meeting is one in which the advantage is with the loudest shouters. They have a great personal advantage purchased at the cost of considerable personal fatigue. However, we are going to make an endeavor to put ourselves into better acoustic conditions this afternoon. (Applause).

#### THE POSTAL RATE ON IMPERIAL PUBLICATIONS.

**Mr. Ebenezer Parkes (M.P. for Birmingham)** moved:—

"That the freer interchange between the people of the Empire, of the newspapers and periodicals, published therein, would do much to strengthen Imperial unity and the associations and aims upon which such unity must be based."

It is further resolved, that it should be the aim of Imperial statesmanship to reach an arrangement which would make it possible for British publications to compete on even terms with foreign newspapers."

**MR. PARKES, M.P.:** Mr. President and Gentlemen: If you will give me a short time I will promise to be as brief as possible upon this question. It is a question which has a great influence, I believe, upon the trade and commerce, not only of Canada, but also of the United Kingdom. I may say that we have met together this morning, that is the different chambers who had resolutions on this point have met together, and I thought we had arrived at a unanimous resolution representing the whole. But I find since that there is some little disagreement.

One of the delegates has just spoken to me, as you observe, and I find that now we have made another arrangement and as far as I am personally concerned, I do not care which resolution is proposed, but what we want to get at is the idea contained in the resolution. I am prepared now to move the Montreal resolution in place of the Birmingham one and also the last clause of the Orillia resolution.

Well, now, of course, we all know what the grievance is. The grievance is that the Canadian rate and the American rate upon newspapers and magazines is a one cent or one-half penny per pound. The English rate for the same kind of material is four pence per pound. The consequence is that the English manufacturer loses the advantage of a cheap rate of postage between the Mother Country and Canada. And I am told that there are certain English publications which are sent from

England to New York, and which are Americanized in their passage between England and Canada. That is to say, that certain popular periodicals or magazines, as the case may be, are sent to New York and are there deprived of their covers, and instead of English advertisements there are American advertisements inserted. The consequence is that those popular English magazines appear in a new dress composed of American advertisements. Now, of course, that is a distinct disadvantage to the English manufacturer. Another disadvantage of course, is by means of this cheap postage, that Canada is flooded with American literature, that the literature in their schools, upon which the young people of Canada, more or less feed, is of an American character, more than of an English character, so that both from a commercial point of view and from a literary point of view, and from an educational point of view, the English stand at a great disadvantage upon this question.

Well, now, the object of this resolution of course, is to assimilate the English postage to the Canadian and American postage. And I must say that I believe it is a very laudible object indeed, and I wish myself that it could be accomplished. But I took the precaution before I left England to see the English Postmaster-General upon this question, and to see if he could not modify in some way the decision he had already come to upon this question. I find that the Premiers who met in London last year approached the English Government upon this question. They considered it a very important question. The London Chamber of Commerce has also approached the English Government upon this question, and on both occasions they received a courteous but distinct refusal to accede to the request which has been made by them.

Well, now, I will just give you in a very short time what were the reasons which the English Postmaster-General gave to these representations, and I mention this because I think it is only right that we should face this question and know what are the reasons which the English Postmaster-General gave for refusing to accept these suggestions. First of all he said, that if you make a special arrangement with regard to Canada between England and Canada, you must make it with regard to the domestic matters in England as well, and that he found it impossible to carry printed matter in the shape of magazines or newspapers in England at the rate of one cent per pound. In the next place he said you would also have to include books, and you would also have to include merchants' catalogues and all kinds of printed matter. You could not confine it only to magazines and periodicals, but it would have to be universal in its application.

Another reason, and perhaps the most important of the reasons, was that it did not pay. He gave me the assurance that all the half-penny postage, including post cards, in Great Britain were more or less of a non-paying character, and he said, that if you give a preference to magazines and newspapers, you merely subsidize one portion of the community at the cost of another portion. Of course, upon this financial question that is I am afraid a more or less final answer. He said it does not pay to carry half-penny stuff, but it does pay to carry penny postage; and what he said was this, that the door may be open in regard to making some fresh arrangement in regard to material carried for a penny, that is, some modification may be made in the conditions under which penny matter is carried. That is the only gleam of hope I see. I know Canada is making sacrifices in this matter and that the United States is making sacrifices too. The American post office in 1901 had an adverse balance in their post office of nearly \$4,000,000, and in 1902 they had an adverse

balance of nearly \$3,000,000. Well now, the question is, is the English post office prepared to carry mail at a loss? America may be able, but the English post office is not prepared to do so. This may look like throwing cold water on the scheme, but I merely tell you this to show the difficulties the British Postmaster-General has in meeting your views. It is for the Postmaster-General to do what he can in the direction of the slight hopes of intervention in regard to penny matter. All I can say is, I hope the opinions and decisions of the English Postmaster-General are not final on this subject. I do not believe any of these opinions are final. I am at one with the English and Canadian Chambers of Commerce in desiring a reform on this matter. I am desirous that English literature and trade matter should come into this country as cheaply as from the States. One thing you can keep on doing is trying to educate the English post office. You should not relax your efforts. The English Chambers will not relax their efforts and I am sure you will not either. I will do what I can as an English member of Parliament to bring this matter before the Postmaster-General, and any influence I can exercise in that direction will be in support of this resolution. I would urge you to continue pressing for what is a very important reform, and one of benefit to England and the colonies. I move the Montreal resolution and the last clause of the Orillia resolution. (Applause.)

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Who seconds the resolution?

**THE SECRETARY (Mr. Miller of Orillia):**

**MR. J. C. MILLER (Orillia Board of Trade):** My Lord and Gentlemen: This is a very important matter, concerning every Canadian business man. The United States publications come into Canada at one-eighth the cost of British publications. This of necessity must have a very deleterious effect not only upon the sentiment of the Canadian people, but also upon the business relations between Canada and the United States as compared with between Canada and the Motherland. For one cent the Americans can send publications into Canada which cost the British eight cents. That is an anomaly which should be remedied. Mr. Austin Chamberlain, Postmaster-General for Great Britain, has already consented to permit Canadian papers to go into Great Britain at the same rate at which they go from one part of Canada to another, namely, one-half cent per pound, while United States papers come into Canada at a rate of one cent per pound. The result of this is, that Canada is flooded with American literature and the British literature that comes in here is very largely, as the gentleman who has just spoken has said, American reprints of British publications, but the advertising matter is American advertising matter. We have to realize that every paper coming from the United States or from Great Britain is a commercial traveller soliciting trade. When we find that over \$500,000 has been paid for American papers as against \$140,000 for British papers, and that in some cases more than three times the price has been paid for British publications, you will understand that these useful commercial travellers from the United States are plying their business to a greater extent than the British. It is a very serious matter, and we ask that the Mother Country be put at least on equal competing terms with the United States and other foreign countries. We are British to the core, as has been said in this Congress before. The proof that our loyalty is not of the superficial and frothy kind, can be found in the fact that whilst Canada is flooded with Republican literature from the United States, we still remain true loyal subjects of King Edward. That speaks volumes for our loyalty. (Hear, hear). The fact also that the decreasing trade between Great Britain and Canada, a trade

which, since I think 1887, has been gradually decreasing, was arrested by the preference given by Canada to the goods of the Mother Country is another proof of the same thing. The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain regretted that it was not any more than arrested. He regretted that the trade between Great Britain and Canada had not been increased to the anticipated extent by the Preferential Tariff. Mr. Chamberlain gives credit to the Canadian Government and people for their generous intentions and their sincere desire to cultivate closer trade relations between the Mother Country and Canada, this great Dominion, and still he said the increase of trade since the Preferential Tariff was introduced, was not at all in proportion to the growth of trade between the United States and Canada. Why? One reason, undoubtedly, is on account of the slack Consular service, as has been pointed out this morning. Another and a more important reason is that although trade, as they say, follows the flag, I am more inclined to believe that the trade follows the advertisements, and Americans advertise their goods much more than the British do in Canada. Take one item, that of patent medicines. These are sold, as we all know, very largely on account of the advertisement, and four times as much money is spent in Canada for United States medicines as for British medicines. Why? In addition to the advertising I would call attention also to the fact that the postal facilities as between Canada and the United States and between Canada and Great Britain are altogether unfavorable to the British. What kind of British papers get into Canada and to what extent? The London Daily News, the Daily Chronicle, the Post, the Telegraph, or any first-class paper of this kind costs \$12 or \$13 a year. The New York Tribune or Herald or Evening Post, cost \$9, and the New York Sun or World can be had for \$6. How are the young people of Canada to be educated in British Imperial sentiments, if they can get American papers for half the price at which they can get British papers? You cannot educate people in these sentiments better than by placing before them such papers as the London Times and these others I have mentioned. (Applause). The Manchester Guardian, a most excellent provincial paper, costs \$15 a year, while the Buffalo Express or the Chicago Record-Herald can be had for between \$3 and \$4 a year. This is a shame and should be remedied as soon as possible. The fact that there is a little deficit in the British postal service, should not stand in the way of this urgently needed reform. (Applause). Take some other papers by way of illustration. The London Graphic or the Illustrated London News costs \$9, if we get the British print and not the American reprint, which is filled with American advertisements, when Harper's Weekly or Collier's or Leslie's can be had for \$4 or \$5. I could give you a larger list if time permitted, but I will not further take up the time of the Congress with it.

Another matter which loudly calls for reform is the cost of post office orders. If you send money to Great Britain you have to pay twice and sometimes three times as much as if you were sending it to the United States by postal order. You cannot send to Great Britain more than \$50, and for this you are charged 50 cents, while to the United States you can send \$100 at the cost of only 30 cents, so that you can send to the United States twice the amount at little more than half the cost. The rates in Great Britain should be assimilated to those in Canada. We should look to these things if we desire to encourage in this country the sentiment of Imperialism and British unity, and to increase trade between the Motherland and the Colonies. We should see to it also that the Americans do not continue to enjoy the advantage which they now have in

the matter of advertising, or at least that the British merchants are no longer subjected to disadvantage in this respect. I ask that this motion may receive the hearty and unanimous support of this Congress. (Applause).

MR. ROBERT BICKERDIKE, M.P.: I rise simply to endorse the statements which have just been made. I shall not detain you. I was down as the proposer of the resolution, but I am heartily glad that we have had the pleasure of hearing it proposed by the distinguished member of the British House of Commons who accepted the task of proposing it. There is no question but that the resolutions are fully endorsed by the Montreal Board of Trade and I may say by the citizens of Canada. (Applause). I believe that reciprocity in postage between the Imperial Government and her colonies, more especially on newspapers, magazines and periodicals, would tend very much to strengthen the tie which binds the colonies to the Mother Country. Canada has shown to the world that a low rate of postage is the better way to develop the country; she has led off with a reduction of the postage system to Great Britain, and we now urge upon Great Britain to reciprocate. We should see to it that the growing population under the Union Jack should have cheap access to the best British literature, in this way the minds of the British colonists would become more familiar with the different magazines representing the best standards of the Home land, and in this way the colonies will become more attractive not only to a large number of British subjects emigrating annually from Great Britain, but also to those from other countries who will make their homes in Canada. (Applause).

LIEUT.-COLONEL J. B. MACLEAN (of Montreal, representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association): Mr. Chairman, we agree entirely with the resolution offered by the Montreal Board of Trade, except that we think a slight amendment should be made by inserting the words "and trade," so that the last line would read "would do much to strengthen Imperial unity and trade and that association of ideas and alma upon which such unity and trade must exist." We also think that the clause praying His Majesty's Government "to reduce to the domestic rate the charge on newspapers and periodicals published in the United Kingdom and posted to the colonies should have the word "Canadian" in place of the word "domestic." From the remarks made by the mover of the resolution it is quite evident that the only question with the Imperial Post Office authorities is one of cost. I am afraid they are looking at that from rather a narrow point of view. They do not consider the broader point of view, that the dissemination of British news and British advertisements would repay many hundred-fold the loss of revenue arising from the reduction of postage by the largely increased trade for British manufacturers. (Applause).

The Canadian Government, which has a much larger area to cover than has the Imperial Government in its postal system at home, studied that question carefully, and came to the conclusion it would pay the Canadian people to circulate their papers, at almost a nominal rate of postage throughout England. The most important factor in this situation is the effect of the circulation on the minds of the Canadian people. They are being continually fed upon United States sentiments, largely anti-British, for the traditions and the printed histories of the American people, beginning, as they do, with the Revolution, are decidedly unfavorable to Britain. Travel modifies, but does not always change them. The sayings, the doings and the triumphs of the United States people are always set forth with the usual enthusiasm of a young people, while the worst side of the British is often presented.

During our trouble in South Africa there was but one United States paper that presented what many in Canada considered fair views of the situation. In business they have persistently spoken of the British as a dying nation. If they ship a case of shoes to Bristol or sell a locomotive to Liverpool, they talk so much about it in their newspapers and magazines that we readers actually believe that the shoe factories and engineering shops of Great Britain are being steadily driven out of business by United States and German enterprise.

As has been said, Canada is flooded with United States literature. The high postage rates shut out the British publications. Our cable news comes through United States channels, and to-day ninety-nine per cent. of the people of Canada, who have not studied the question, believe that the world's supremacy in art, literature and trade, which we, in our infancy were taught rested with Britain, has passed to the United States. Our ambitious young men, losing faith in our Empire, have crossed the border by thousands, and have built up and helped to build up the great industries of the republic. Fed on different literature, I believe a great majority of these young men would have remained in Canada or gone to Great Britain. As a result of several months' study on the spot, of the situation in Great Britain, just after we in Canada adopted the preferential tariff, I came to the conclusion that Great Britain holds the greatest opportunities for the ambitious Canadian. Our young men with their unbounded energy, strong constitutions, hard work, ready adaptability to new conditions and surroundings, can make a combination with the grand old concerns in the Motherland, with their splendid reputations, extending back for generations, which are an inspiration for any man; firms which now work for Kudos as well as money. Such a combination, I say, could hold their own and win out in competition with any amalgamation, any community of interests that might be arranged by other people. This is not my opinion only. It is the conclusion arrived at by one of the brightest writers on business questions in the United States.

But this phase of it is perhaps less important to this Congress than its effect upon the business relations of the British Empire. The Americans are to-day the strongest and most effective business promoters in the world. The principle upon which they are working is to familiarize probable buyers with themselves and their products. This they do by talking to them systematically and continually, with printed matter—general and trade newspapers, magazines, booklets, catalogues. Not only are their own papers filled with their own announcements, but they have been clever enough to make arrangements with the few enterprising London publishers who have made special efforts to get circulation in this country by establishing agencies here, to cut out the advertisements in the English papers, which are intended for circulation here. And they are carrying their campaign abroad. It is not very long since we read in a cable in our papers that manufacturers in Germany had held a meeting to protest against the control of some of their leading trade papers passing to interest representing United States manufacturers. I know myself that efforts have been made recently to procure control of a London paper and also of a similar paper printed in Montreal, in order to promote quietly and systematically United States business interests.

Another evidence of the value the United States business man places on the circulation of printed matter is to be found in the recent report of the National Association of Manufacturers of the United States, where they are asking their Post Office Department to still further reduce the rates, and point out that as a nation they are repaid for the generous way their post offices has aided in distributing literature through-



out the country, in the increased intelligence of the people, and add "wherever you go in the United States you will find the people well informed on current events, and you will not find it so in Germany and England."

If time would permit, and it were really necessary to convince you further, I would quote from some thirty to forty letters I have here, which I got together Saturday, to show that some Canadian manufacturers who had been systematically placing printed matter in the hands of probable buyers abroad were steadily working up an export trade, and a most profitable trade it has become. I would like, however, to draw your attention to a letter which appeared in the June, 1902, Blue Book of the Department of Trade and Commerce from Mr. Sontun, a Norwegian, but the Canadian Government's commercial representative for Scandinavia. After pointing out that a reduced postage on printed matter would encourage its extensive circulation abroad and would, in his experience, do more to aid Canadian export trade than anything else, he proceeds to quote a large number of sales made by Canadian firms, as a result of some literature which had been sent into Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. They secured a trade that had previously been held by United States, German and other competitors. One result, I may mention from his report. Nearly all the public buildings that have been erected in these countries in the past six years, besides a number of private houses, have been heated with plants made in Canada. I know, as a matter of fact, that the firm referred to had no thought of seeking business in that part of the world until their announcement in a paper attracted the attention of a buyer in Christiania. If it pays in the instances I have referred to, how much more profitable would it be to us and for the Empire as a whole to encourage by nominal postage rates the circulation of printed matter between ourselves. (Hear, hear).

The situation in the Empire to-day is very much like that which confronted a certain Canadian town many years ago. The citizens were unanimously agreed that something must be done to extend their business interests. A meeting was held and various schemes were discussed. The town was the centre of a great stock raising district. The buyers went about and bought cattle, paid for them and drove them up to the nearest railway station for shipment. Some of this money which they received for these cattle was spent in the local town, but most of it went to other and more enterprising centres, with newspapers which were circulated among the farmers. The town decided upon a monthly cattle fair; it would bring the farmers with their cattle to town, they would sell them and the townspeople guessed they were pretty poor business men if they could not get most of that money. The farmers for miles around were notified. They received the suggestion very cordially. The member of Parliament came up from Ottawa to assist in inaugurating the event. On the appointed day, from early morning, farmers with their cattle began to arrive from all directions and the streets were crowded. It was a great success, and everyone congratulated everyone else and the member of Parliament made a speech. But along about 11 o'clock a gloom began to gather over the people. Every one asked every one else if he had sold yet. No one had sold, and no one was positively certain that he had seen a buyer. It then dawned on the townspeople that they had made a great success in assembling the sellers with their fine cattle and sheep, but they had taken no steps to let buyers know that there would be cattle there to sell, that they had been so pleased with themselves, they had been so enthusiastic, and had talked so much about the event that they believed the whole country must know about it, and had not taken the trouble to send announcements to the buyers. This

is a true story in the annals of a well known Canadian town, and it exemplifies the position in the British Empire to-day.

I believe this matter of lower postage has been already represented to the Imperial Post Office authorities. Their answer is that long established arrangements with the railways, express and news companies in the United Kingdom cannot be altered. If they were not permanent officers, but ordinary business men, this objection would soon be met, for most of the delegates present are constantly dealing successfully with more troublesome questions.

But no such objection confronts them in dealing with the interchange of printed matter outside the United Kingdom. Let them lower the rates. We are carrying out such a system in Canada to-day. As a matter of fact it costs much less for a Montreal publisher to send a paper through the Post Office from St. James street to this hotel than it does to send the same paper to a subscriber in the United Kingdom.

In conclusion, if we of the British Empire want to extend our business relation, if we want to buy from and sell to each other we must make ourselves better known to each other. This can only be done effectively through printer's ink and samples, followed when possible with calls by personal representatives, supplemented by more printing in the form of newspapers, booklets and catalogues. We can get this printed matter and sample packages effectively circulated with lower postage rates, and you will take a step in this direction by adopting the resolution I have the honor to subscribe to on behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Mr. R. H. DILLON (St. Mary's, Ontario, Board of Trade): I think at this late hour it will be well for me to say very little, but I don't think I would be talking economic heresy if I said that I think, first of all, it is the business of the Government to so administer the business departments under its control as to be in the best interests of the people.

I think that this will be just a fair answer to the Postmaster-General of England. There might be quite a lot to be said on this interesting point, but I do not know that it is necessary for me to add any more. There are several other things which I would like to have added but dinner time is near.

Mr. S. W. ROYCE (Manchester Chamber of Commerce): My Lord President and Gentlemen: I have only taken for the purpose of supporting your resolution which has been proposed by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. The more Canadian and the more British—what I would term residents of the United Kingdom—know of each other the better it will be for both, and as it is impossible for every Canadian, and every resident in the United Kingdom to travel across the ocean to visit each other, the next best thing undoubtedly is to have communication by means of literature, and I include under the heading of literature—newspapers. The more Canadians read of the British newspapers, the more they will know of the difficulties that we have to encounter, and the more they will know of the thoughts and feelings that permeate those of the old land, and I am sure it would be an economic expenditure if the British Government could see its way to bring about, even at some loss, different postal arrangements so as to put us in better communication with each other by means of newspapers and literature between the two countries, I therefore have very great pleasure in supporting the resolution that has been proposed by Mr. Parkes, on behalf of the Birmingham Chamber. (Cheers).

THE PRESIDENT: I will now put the resolution before you, gentlemen, "That the freer interchange be-

tween the people of the Empire, of the newspapers and periodicals, published therein would do much to strengthen Imperial unity and the associations and aims upon which such unity must be based.

"It is further resolved that it should be the aim of Imperial statesmanship to reach an arrangement which would make it possible for British publications to compete on even terms with foreign newspapers." As many as are in favor of this resolution will please signify in the usual manner. The resolution is adopted unanimously.

We are now so near to the hour fixed for adjournment that I think I shall be exercising a discretion which will prove satisfactory. I would, therefore, propose that we now adjourn to resume again at two o'clock and that on resuming our deliberations we shall take up the fiscal proposal.

The Congress then adjourned for luncheon.

On resuming:

#### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY, HER COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 by the President, the Right Hon. Lord Brassey.

The PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, I have been suggesting for some time that we begin the discussion as soon as possible. There is a draft of a proposed resolution which is to be put before you, but which is not quite ready yet, but will be ready by the time we are prepared to discuss it. I think it will be quite in order, therefore, for me to call upon Mr. Cockshutt, representing the Toronto Board of Trade, to propose the resolution. You will be in possession of a typed copy of the proposed resolution in a few minutes.

MR. W. F. COCKSHUTT (of the Toronto Board of Trade): Mr. President, My Lords and Gentlemen: I have been requested to move the following resolution:—

It is resolved, "That in the opinion of this Congress the bonds of the British Empire would be materially strengthened, and the union of the various parts of His Majesty's Dominion greatly consolidated by the adoption of a commercial policy based upon the principles of mutual benefit, whereby each component part of the Empire would receive a substantial advantage in trade as a result of its national relationship, due consideration being given to the fiscal needs of the component parts of the Empire."

"That this Congress urges upon His Majesty's Government the appointment by them of a special commission composed of representatives of Great Britain and her Colonies and India, to consider the possibilities of thus increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire and the trading facilities within the Empire, and with foreign countries."

My Lord, this is a very important occasion, the subject is a great one, and I desire before entering upon the discussion of it to make one or two requests of the members of this Congress. I would like to ask firstly, that so far as possible in discussing this resolution we avoid all political reference (hear, hear). In the second place. I would ask that we do not stir up a cloud of dust in regard to details and lose sight of the great principle contained in the resolution. (Applause.) In the third place I would ask, and lay down, that a general broad principle of mutual self-help as an Empire policy be the key note of the discussion of to-day. (Applause.) The need for a commercial policy for the Empire is great and probably greater to-day than it has ever been in the history of the British Empire. (Hear, hear.) For twenty years we have been discussing in various forms and phases the matter of commercial relations, the matter of preferential tariffs, and how the Empire can best serve the various component parts that belong to this vast dominion of ours. We have recently had a pronouncement by one of the chief

statesmen—I was almost going to say the chief statesman of England (applause), in which he has laid down the principle that it is not simply a matter of a policy but it is a call for us to decide between the question of an Empire or no Empire. (Great applause). Those are very strong words, gentlemen, but according to my thinking, they are none too strong to express the situation to-day. (Voices: "Right, right.") True it is that for many years, almost a century past, we have been drifting along together, but the time is not far distant—it may be close upon us, when, instead of having favoring winds and tides holding us together, without any common bond, we may meet adverse currents and contrary winds, that may scatter the British Empire to the four winds of Heaven, and break it up into the original fragments of which it is composed. May Heaven forefend that such a thing should be; but, gentlemen, it is a necessity, and I trust that this Congress before it rises will find on a true and solid basis that a preferential arrangement within the Empire will be the salvation of the British Empire and will tend to hold us together. (Applause). Gentlemen, it is said that we are held together by sentiment, that it is a simple thread—a weak, perhaps slight, bond, that holds us together, but I contend, gentlemen, that we, as business men, know the trend of the day, know that commerce is what will count, and that the great wars of the future are going to be commercial wars. (Hear, hear). Shall we fight as a unit, or shall we fight divided for the supremacy of the world of commerce? It appears to me that there can be no other answer than that the strength of the British Empire lies in the unit—the unit of purpose between the Mother Country, and the vast colonies that compose the British Empire. (Applause). If this is the case, it is not too much to ask, gentlemen, that we shall rise to it and discuss the broad principle of an Empire policy for mutual benefit.

Now our resolution, you will notice, calls it, "Mutual benefit." I am here to-day, I trust, as a true friend of this policy, having advocated it twenty years, but I am not so short-sighted as to state here as a true friend of the policy, that I believe it will be wholly beneficial. Now, that is a statement to admit, is it not? I contend that a true friend of this policy must say that it will be one of benefit, and one also of self-sacrifice. (Hear, hear). It will be one of advantage, and one of disadvantage; it will be one of give and one of take, but we call it mutual benefit because we say that in the long run, and in the substance the advantages will far outweigh the disadvantages. (Hear, hear).

We have been told for years, those of us that have advocated this policy, that it is a beautiful dream. Perhaps this may be true, gentlemen, but my answer to those who say it is a beautiful dream, and impracticable, and impossible, is to say that by stating it is a beautiful dream, you must admit that the counterpart is a horrible nightmare. (Laughter). On the one side you see a united Empire, striving for the benefit of the whole to hold us together as one common people, striving together for the success of one common race, the up-building of one common flag, one common fleet, and one common throne. And on the other hand, the horrible nightmare we behold would be to scatter the British Empire into its original fragments, and send it back to the confines of the world, never again to be gathered together. It may be said by some that if the British Empire should lose some of its great possessions to-day, it could soon acquire others. I submit that under the heavens above, there is not sufficient territory nor is there sufficient resource to collect another British Empire such as we hold to-day. (Cheers). If that is the case, are you going to risk the destruction of the present Empire in the hope that if it is dispersed, another can be gathered together? I trow not. I think, gentle-



men, you and I are possessed of the idea that it is a necessity—that the strengthening of trade between ourselves should act as a strengthening of the sentiment that binds us. It is a necessity that we have added material interest to the strength of sentiment. It is true, this has held us together in the past. It has caused us to write our blood upon the battle fields. But, gentlemen, I contend that it is necessary to go farther, and add material interests to the interest we have, in the British Empire, by history, by race, and by sentiment.

I trust that this will be the finding of the Congress and I would like it to go forth to the world that the Congress, assembled in Montreal, for the first time outside of the British Isles, has decided that as far as we are concerned as business men and as a business proposition, that we have decided to stand up for the Empire. (Hear, hear). This discussion has gone very far, sir, but it has gone far enough to have a warning voice for those who have opposed it from outside countries and as interested individuals. You may take it as an axiom that when a nation outside of individuals representing a nation rise and point to us the dangers that lie in our accepting this that they are actuated by other motives than the desire to help us. (Hear, hear).

We have had cabled across from Great Britain recently some very stout words of advice from the neighbors to the south, and others, advising that we do not enter such a contract as it would be most dangerous to the Empire. My idea is to mistrust that. If these gentlemen who give this advice thought it would be dangerous to the Empire they would be the first to tell us to go ahead with it. (Hear, hear). The admonitory effect that it has had has already made itself evident in the hull that has fallen upon the threatenings we have had. The papers have not been teeming recently with threats from outside sources, that if we do this and that we will be called to time by our neighbors or by those who are competitors with us in commercial lines. It has had a silencing effect, and it is the best signal we can have that we are upon true lines. There is nothing that to my mind gives us more encouragement than to know we have opposition from outside sources.

But gentlemen, I want to submit this: if we decide, as I trust we shall after free and full discussion and investigation and inquiry, to enter upon such a policy as has been suggested here, that we do not undertake that policy because of the ill-will of outsiders, but because of the good will of our own people. (Hear, hear). To make this policy the success that we who have been striving for it for years should wish to make it, I think at least three things should be observed: First, to make this policy a success it must have the true and loyal support of a large majority of the citizens of the Empire. (Hear, hear). It is a mistake to suppose that Canada is putting forward this proposition. I tell you, gentlemen, as a Canadian, that if Great Britain principally, and Australia and South Africa can see nothing in it for them, then for heaven's sake let us turn down the proposition and let us not have anything to do with it. We do not ask Great Britain to cripple herself for us. We do not need it in this country, and we do not come as supplicants asking for special favors to be given to us as a part of the Empire, but we have looked the whole ground over, we have looked on these things that are threatening the trade of Great Britain and our colonies and we have said: Can't we stand together, shoulder to shoulder, and help one another in this great fight. (Thunderous applause). As a Canadian I say that we do not wish the support of Great Britain to-day in this matter if she does not see anything in it for herself. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, if correctly reported, is said recently to have made this statement, that it is

for those who are calling for a change in policy to justify the requirements. I am not in a position to answer so great a man as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but I would ask that if he is seeking for justification for the plan, that he turn and take a glance through the Blue Books he himself has printed. If he glances through these Blue Books, he will, to my mind, at least, see a justification of the policy we are asking for. In these books he will find a report that upwards of one hundred millions of pounds of manufactured goods have gone into the Great British isles to the destruction of British Industry. (No, no!) To the taking from the month of the workingman the food that he otherwise would have had. (Hear, hear). Should the Chancellor of the Exchequer take a glance at the wheat fields of Great Britain—where are the mighty fields of Britain, where are the stout yeomanry and peasantry who once handled the plow and whose hands so ably wielded the sickle, the scythe, and cradled the golden grain? What has become of these millions of acres? They gradually melted away, growing beautifully less and less every year by year. And it has become almost impossible for the British yeoman and the British peasant to have been driven out of that land of which one of our poets so eloquently sings, when he says:

"The forest land, to hastening life a prey,  
"Where wealth accumulates and men decay;  
"Famine and lords may flourish or may fade,  
"A breath may make them, as a breath hath made,  
"But a bold peasantry, its country's pride,  
"When once destroyed can never be supplied."

(Cheers.)

I might go on to enlarge as I have done on the Blue Books that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has issued, but I must rest content in the few minutes at my disposal to refer to one further matter contained in the Blue Books he has himself published. And that is a most powerful argument in the hands of foreign countries, who take these Blue Books as the Chancellor of the Exchequer has printed them. Let one of our shippers go to a foreign market and say, "I want you to buy our products in steel, in cotton, or whatever it may be," and these gentlemen from other countries will meet us with the arguments in these very Blue Books. We will say, "we belong to the Mother Country, and to the Mother Country we want to take our trade." The answer of the foreign producer is, and without contradiction, "You are going to buy from Britain these goods we ourselves, outside nations, are selling to them. We are selling these goods to Britain. Would you go there for the goods they, on their own admission, are compelled to buy from foreign countries?" There is one of the strongest arguments that can be used, and it is used against Canada and the other parts of the Empire. How, if England cannot keep these foreign goods out of her own markets, is she going to send similar goods to markets thousands of miles away. These are some of the arguments to be found in the Blue Books that the Chancellor of the Exchequer publishes and that require to be answered and met by our producers when they go to foreign markets.

Now, gentlemen, I have said that three things were necessary; I have dealt with but one of these. Another thing necessary is that in instituting a policy so great as this we have due regard to the weak as well as to the strong units composing the Empire. I would like to see a policy adopted taking in every isle, no matter how small, over which the British flag waves. Do not let us hurt the little member of the Empire; do not let us disturb vested interests more than necessary. It may be necessary to disturb them somewhat in inaugurating such policy as this, but I would say, let it be as little as possible. Let us have autonomy and only act as a unit where it is necessary to establish a general principle and for the general good. I think

this argument should appeal to gentlemen from all parts of the Empire gathered here to-day. (Hear, hear.) I think we are a unit in desiring to perpetuate the Empire. We in Canada do not desire to ask special favors or that our special views must receive special consideration or we will withdraw from the union. I make no such threat, and I hope no man on this floor will. But we have pointed out the difficulties and dangers. I ask you to contemplate the position in which the Dominion is to-day. The day has gone when it can any longer be kept small; it is growing and will grow. (Applause.) We are drawing population from all the civilized countries of the world. We are receiving vast numbers from among our distinguished friends of the south, people whom we are certain will make worthy citizens of our country. We are also drawing people from foreign countries across the sea, from Germany, from France, and from the eastern countries of Europe. If this is the case you will understand that they are not perhaps actuated by the same sentiments as we are who have been born here, or who have come from the British Isles to cast in our lot with Canada. It is therefore necessary that sentiment be strengthened by material interest, in order that we may appeal to all sections of humanity; and we are told that the pocket is the tenderest spot in which you can touch a man. (Hear, hear.)

If this is so, we have a country that is going to live and let live. We have great possibilities. We are producing, perhaps, as much goods per capita as any nation under the sun, and statistics will bear that statement out. If this is so, it is not so much that we need it ourselves, but that in the best interests of the British Empire it is necessary. I do not want to repeat that too much, but it is the kernel of the whole situation. It is a policy of Empire we want, and I trust in this debate that we will rise superior to small things, and in that sense see that it is a matter of importance to the British Empire. The best thinkers have come to the conclusion that under existing circumstances it is scarcely possible for the Empire to hold together otherwise. Perhaps you will say that that is a prophecy. Do not take it from me. Look back to history—I do not want to take you back to the days of Rome and of Babylon—but look at the history of the Empire of Spain, of the Empire of Holland, and of the Empire of Portugal. What has become of these great empires? They have crumbled and fallen into ruin and decay. The pathway of history is strewn with the wreckage of empires. The problem is, shall we escape? Is there any special charm about the British Empire or the British people that we can escape the fate that has overtaken other Empires? If there is, where is it? I say it is offered to you to-day. I say that in no other way than establishing one common bond of commercial union throughout the British Empire can we escape this fate. (Cheers.) It will be impossible for me now to finish all I have to say within the time limit, and I trust you, Mr. Chairman, will ring the warning bell one minute before the expiry of my time.

SEVERAL DELEGATES: "Go on, go on."

MR. COCKSHUTT: I do not wish to exhaust your patience, but I do want to say that I wish those citizens beyond the sea and some few in this country who are so busy conjuring up and trotting out the lions in the way, would turn their attention to the solution of a great question, to the building up rather than the pulling down of the Empire. Gentlemen, according to the best information and knowledge that I have on the subject, some of the lions that have been conjured up if walked up to, examined and dissected, will be found to be stuffed with straw. (Hear, hear.) Here is one of them: I only give you this one as a sample. The question is asked, and frequently the assertion is made that the trade between Great Britain and the colonies is only about one-third of that of the Empire.

And the question is asked shall we jeopardize the two-thirds for the sake of the one-third? Now, to my mind Mr. Chairman, Lord Bessy, that question is asked by one who has not followed the history of protective countries and of countries that have a tariff. They who have instituted such a policy have not sacrificed the trade. History shows that you will be able to hold the trade only if you take care to be in such a position, that when a country attacks you, you will be able, if necessary, to give a back-hander to that country. (Applause.) This is being proved by the trade history of Great Britain herself and I tell you, gentlemen, that this matter has been seriously considered, seriously discussed in England recently, and if it shall come to this that the world shall understand that Great Britain and her colonies are going to combine to trade together, I tell you that the world will tremble at it. There is nothing to my mind that will make other nations more willing to bargain, more willing to give and take in matters of commerce, than to know that you are in a position to defend yourselves. (Applause.) To cast aside the ammunition is not the policy of Great Britain in the case of the army and navy, and why should it be in the matter of trade? There is the question. Why throw aside the arms wherewith you can protect yourselves? Why talk about the open door? It is another name perhaps for an old policy. Why talk about the open door? It is well enough in summer, but I trust that some of you gentlemen who have come across to see this Canada of ours before you go away, if you will stay the winter, you will see the necessity of having doors that may be closed. (Laughter.) I would like to ask are doors for the benefit of the outsider or for the protection of the persons inside. (Laughter.) We dwellers in this country like to have our doors and windows open in the summer, but when the summer wanes and the winter comes, we desire to close the door and to protect ourselves, with doors and double windows if necessary. We think that this is the province of the man within the house, and that the man within the house should not be actuated by parties outside clad in furs, who draw their wraps around them and say "We can start it, if you can." (Laughter.) If you will allow me to follow out that simile, will you allow those who are outside to come in and strangle us and not exert the force that providence has given us to defend ourselves with? If you did this, you would be just as we would be in the winter with the open door. (Applause.) (We would be insane.) Our life blood would be congealed in our veins and we would wake up in the morning with the frost upon our face and ourselves beautiful icicles. (Laughter.) That is what will happen to the British Empire trade, if we allow the outsider to come in by any stealth, by any path, or if we do not put into force that policy which I contend is necessary for our existence and which is the universal line which is being adopted by commerce to-day. (Applause.) Now, I think I have spoken somewhat more fully than I had intended. The London Chamber of Commerce has met us in a kindly and strengthening spirit, and we owe a great debt to our friend, Mr. Gillespie, that we are able to lay before you a unanimous resolution on the part of the Canadians, and very largely supported by the British Chambers. We think that something can be done by these assemblies of the Chambers of Commerce representing the trade of the Empire. If they mean anything to the outside world, they mean that we to-day are giving expression to the matured opinion of the British Empire in matters of trade and though they have no legislative functions they will, I contend, be read with great interest throughout the civilized commercial world, and they will have an effect in advancing the interest of commerce. (Applause.) We have before us a great prin-

ciple and we believe that that principle will be advanced, that its adoption as the policy of the Empire will be hastened by the discussion which we are holding here to-day. This subject is one worthy of discussion and consideration by these Chambers of Commerce. There has never been in modern times submitted to the Empire a subject as important, nor one more ripe for proper solution, than that which we have now before us. It is a subject which I contend should be discussed fairly and fully on every platform and at every fireside throughout the Empire. (Applause.) There is no policy that can be of real importance, of real worth, unless it will bear a full and free discussion. If the policy that we are endeavoring to enunciate to-day and which is embodied in that resolution, cannot bear full discussion both in this assembly and before every commercial body, there must be something wrong. But we do not think there is. It can bear and it has borne the fullest discussion for the past twenty years, and I fully believe, and I know that you believe with me that it is in the best interest of the British Empire. (Applause.) Do not let us make a great mistake by entering into something that might be considered dangerous, without having fully considered it, but let me remind you that consideration can last too long. A man may be considering the insurance of his house for years, but does not wake up to the idea it is time to put it on until after a fire. I hope that will not be the case with regard to this matter in this Congress. As far as I am able to read the trend of events in some of the colonies and Great Britain, the hour is near at hand when we must give a final answer to this question, and can any of you, I was going to say dare any of you, take the responsibility of turning down a proposition that has been advocated for twenty years by many of the warmest supporters of the British Empire throughout its whole colonies. If you do take that responsibility, and the door is finally closed against the proposition, you will be face to face with this. It has been difficult to hold the Empire together, in some instances the tendency has been rather to move away, and if you once stop the agitation which has been going on for twenty years to bind us closer together, and put a damper upon the loyal subjects of His Majesty and stop it, how much more rapidly shall we be diverted from the faith in us?

I trust I am speaking the views of a large portion of the Canadian delegates, when I say I desire, and have instructions to say, as far as they are concerned, they desire a clear understanding and clear issue on the main question of a mutual trade bond throughout the Empire that shall give a decided advantage to every component part, and that it shall be discussed before this Congress. If that is carried here, I believe in the near future the British Empire will follow the lead set by business men, because if this policy means anything it means business, and should be settled by business men. I trust throughout the discussion we may endeavour to hold together and hold up the one desire of Empire, a united Empire that will long continue to be the pride and satisfaction of the British race and the envy of all outside our borders. (Loud applause.)

**THE PRESIDENT:** I will call upon Mr. Cohen to second the resolution.

**MR. N. L. COHEN** (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): In ascending the platform at your request, my Lord, to second this resolution, I must first express my deep consciousness that the task of doing so, which has been allocated to me, mainly, because I proposed the resolution from which our proposal was evolved at the London Council Chamber, would have been much more cogently and eloquently discharged by any other of my colleagues. I have especially in

my mind, Mr. Stanley Boulton, who was a pioneer in his devotion to this question, and who, I hope, will give us the advantage of listening to him presently. But, whilst my Lords and Gentlemen, I would plead for your consideration and indulgence, emphasized by the circumstance that my colleagues only informed me an hour ago of the honour they proposed to confer upon me, I will say no one amongst them or in the hall is more deeply impressed with the momentous character of the issue to which our resolution relates than I am. I would add further, that I can claim for the part of the resolution contributed by the London Chamber, that it received the unanimous assent of a body representing upwards of 4,000 commercial men, men of very different interests, and also a consideration which cannot be entirely ignored,—of very different political sympathies and antipathies.

Now, My Lord, I propose in seconding this resolution which has been so powerfully and eloquently submitted to you, to maintain that the resolution embodies as wide and as harmonious a proposal as could have been framed. Our friend said he wanted there to be a clear understanding as to the significance of this resolution. Let me say that I quite recognize that the presentation on the agenda of our proceedings of some seven or eight resolutions definitely favoring the principle of preferential tariff, emanating from Canadian organizations is very significant. That circumstance I recognize, and shall so report at home. As a notable demonstration of Canadian opinion. Its significance is most remarkable, and of much importance. But the fact, that in order to meet the views of the London Chamber and others, our Canadian friends have been content to use words admitting the consideration of the expediency of alternative methods, to help the inter-Imperial and international trade of the British Empire, an aspiration expressed in the London resolution by the desire "to strengthen and extend British trade"—that, I think, is one of the happiest omens and auguries of this gathering. I only hope all who are in accord with the aspiration within finds expression in both clauses of the resolution. I hope all who desire to extend and to strengthen Imperial trade, will also be willing to co-operate further in that "give-and-take" spirit which led to our accord over this resolution. That spirit is characteristic—I know it from having myself been thirty years in business—of business communities, and I think it generally results in effective progress.

I must say, that when I saw the first clause of the Toronto resolution and I noted the absence of any definite expression of the way in which the effect therein desired is to be attained, I could not help myself recognizing that this comprehensive suggestion was not inconsistent with the London resolution. Gentlemen, I say, speaking with the recollection that I represent as regards at least the second clause of the resolution, I referred, I think, mainly, to the unanimous minds of men of different schools of thought, and that I must try to avoid coloring my remarks, as far as possible, with my own special sentiments. I say that with the best will in the world, and with every desire to meet our friends and with the definite sympathy with some of their concrete aspirations, which some of us individually may feel, we should not have been in a position to support this resolution, but for our interpretation that whilst the tenor is definite, it leaves entirely open for our statesmen to decide the course and method which our country may see fit to adopt to give effect to it. (Hear, hear.) Let me remind you, that not twenty-four hours ago, in this Chamber, speakers discussing the elementary principle which applies to the small as to the great States of the world, the principle of the obligation on citizens in time of peace to prepare for defending their country

in time of war, insisted on the reservation of your own initiative. You made that wise reservation of retaining the initiative for yourselves, a reservation which I think nobody attempted to dispute and which plea I thought something like, as the French say "enforcer une porte ouverte." Similarly in the interpretation of this resolution which I most heartily and most cordially support, you must not take it amiss that I make a similar reservation for ourselves, namely, that we on our side are at liberty to judge the method we may think best of attaining the object in view, described in the resolution, and that all may exercise the liberty of seeking to give effect to the resolution in whatever way may seem most expedient and desirable under the different circumstances to which all the countries are subject, that are constituent parts of our great Empire.

Now, gentlemen, I felt bound to make these preliminary observations in which I think I am in accord and agreement with my colleagues, and if I am not unduly detaining you, I would like to make a few remarks as to the views that I think governed us in regard to our part of this joint resolution. Let me say that I would specially call your attention to the final words in the second clause relating to the "trading facilities within the Empire and with foreign countries"—and by the way, I should remark that there is a word interpolated, I think, by a slip in this resolution. It is after "the possibilities of thus increasing and strengthening," I think that the word "thus" should be omitted.

Now, gentlemen, many of you here will recognize that the principle of the first part of the resolution is identical with the principle which was sanctioned at the last Congress of the Chambers of Commerce. I venture to emphasize that circumstance in confirmation of an observation that fell from Lord Strathcona in the course of his eloquent address. I do think there is a disposition to associate this determination of the Government to hold a revision of our fiscal policy, a disposition to associate that decision somewhat narrowly with one particular Cabinet Minister. I remind you of the circumstance, that this first part of our resolution was adopted in principle at the last Congress three years ago, to confirm a suggestion of Lord Strathcona, I think, to the effect that this decision of the Government is as much in accord with the desire of the business communities as represented by the Chambers of Commerce, as it is due to representations of the colonial Premiers or to the bias of any one Cabinet Minister.

Now, having made that passing remark, I would like to revert to the reasons why we attach particular importance to the second clause of the London resolution, and here I want to refer to a few figures, and these are the only figures with which I shall trouble you.

From a statement supplied to me, taken from the statistical abstracts from the United Kingdom, I find that in 1901 the trade with foreign countries and the different parts of the Empire, exclusive of the United Kingdom, and apart from the transportation of bullion and specie, amounted to nearly one hundred and ninety-two millions of pounds sterling, and the trade of the United Kingdom with foreign countries amounted to six hundred and fifty-one millions one hundred and sixty-two thousand pounds sterling, an aggregate of about eight hundred and forty-three millions, while the inter-Imperial trade of 1901 apart from the United Kingdom, is put at upwards of one hundred and forty millions of pounds sterling, and the trade of the United Kingdom with our over-sea Empire figures at upwards of two hundred and eighteen millions, an aggregate of three hundred and fifty-eight millions of pounds sterling of inter-Imperial trade as compared with eight hundred and forty-three millions of pounds sterling of foreign trade.

Well now, gentlemen, I think that these figures to which my friend (Mr. Cockshott) has also made a passing reference, as the French say "vous sautent aux yeux," and I hope will influence your judgment, because I hold with my colleagues that to limit this inquiry solely to inter-Imperial trade without consideration of the foreign trade, ignores a vital part of the question. I do not say this, because the volume of the intra-Imperial trade is, at the present time smaller than the volume of foreign trade; I recognize that the former is more susceptible of increase and extension under existing circumstances than our foreign trade. I hope in the course of this debate we shall hear from our Canadian friends definite indications of the way in which they are of opinion that this extension of the trade with them of the Mother Country, can be, according to their views, specially helped. Nor do I make this comparison because for a moment I would recognize that we shall jeopardize our foreign trade by any arrangement we choose to make among ourselves for trading together, on any conditions we may think fit.

I accept heartily, and I rejoice that this Chamber accepted yesterday by acclamation, in effect, the principle of the fiscal solidarity of the Empire as regards foreign powers—(hear, hear)—a principle which, I hope, I may interpret as meaning the duty of every part of the Empire to co-operate with the Mother Country in insisting on our right to trade together as we may think fit. (Hear, hear). But these words "trading facilities within the Empire and with foreign countries" cover also a great deal more than the resolution of the last Congress. They cover at least this. Our traders and manufacturers allege that they find in our home markets and in neutral markets and in the Imperial markets, they find their own customers being, so to speak, indirectly bribed away, by the aid of foreign protective duties and foreign subventions and subsidies and foreign facilities of cheap and rapid transit. Surely, then, we have a right to press that words should be in the resolution which shall give them a hearing before their own Government. Gentlemen, I think that those words, (and I hope I am not unduly detaining you in explaining our reasons for their insertion), I think that those words also bring into the review, into the study, in relation to inter-Imperial trade, and foreign trade, a great many issues which we recognize to be most relevant.

They bring into the problem the consideration of the action of foreign governments, when they seek to penalize British colonies for no other reason than because these colonies choose to give favorable concessions to the products of the Mother Country and they bring into consideration suggestions of further action in the same direction—suggestions which are fading away, a very significant circumstance—under the influence of this mooted inquiry into our fiscal system. In short, gentlemen, the object of the desired inquiry is the aim of extending and strengthening generally our home and foreign trade relations. But, we consider, it should especially include a study of the business and commercial experience of the fiscal systems of foreign countries, and of the allegations of unreasonable favoring of foreign traders in competition with British Imperial traders and questions bearing on transport facilities; those are the main reasons which influenced us in pressing for the second clause in the London resolution.

Now, may I—if I am not unduly tiring you—may I say a few words also on the principle of inquiry by Special Commission, about which we have heard a good deal of comment? It is said that the Cabinet is already pledged to hold an inquiry. It is said that the whole nation is conducting an inquiry—witness letters in the newspapers, and the speeches of the politicians—



and we know that we have at home a variety of organizations, with very picturesque, if not quite accurate, names, emitting leaflets and statements indicating, I hope, a multiplicity of inquiries. I will say a word about the Cabinet inquiry directly. But, as to these other inquiries, are they not somewhat in the nature of what I should call snap-shot inquiries? Are they in the nature of that full, fair and impartial inquiry, apart from partisan political sympathies and antipathies, and especially as regards the business, commercial, economic and industrial factors of the position, such as we desire by our resolution? And, as regards the Cabinet inquiry, gentlemen, I frankly own that certain sociological and political considerations bearing on this problem, cannot be determined by any Commission.

May I illustrate this for a moment? The policy, the expediency of fiscal changes which might be thought likely to have the effect of raising the supply prices of the food of our forty millions of population and of raising the supply prices of primary raw materials of our manufacturers—a question about which I feel very strongly, I won't say in which direction—that is a question of policy, a question of expediency, which cannot be determined by any Special Commission. That is a sociological question of policy which must be determined under the responsibility of the Government of the day, in deference to the electorate, by whom they are put in power. But surely the extent to which any particular proposals are likely to have such an effect—that is a matter which surely might be usefully and beneficially submitted for enquiry to a Committee of experts free from political bias, such as, I believe, we desire by our resolution.

And, if you please, My Lord—I hope I am not detaining you too long—("no, no") may I also give you an illustration of the limits which I recognize to this inquiry with regard to political issues? No Special Commission, however composed, could determine, could judge the question of what recognition is due to the Mother Country for its past sacrifices—historical sacrifices of blood and treasure—to safeguard the British Colonies, to defend liberties and interests of the Empire. (Applause.) No Commission could define or judge what recognition is due to that intra-Imperial affinity which was so aptly and so eloquently expounded in reference to one or two of the resolutions yesterday; and no Commission, gentlemen, could define what recognition is due to the Mother Country owing to the circumstances that we spend thirty to thirty-five shillings per head of our population on our army and navy to safeguard the ocean trade routes, to defend British supremacy when it is attacked, and to defend what is as valuable to us, gentlemen, as, so to speak, a mere "cupboard love," even the love of our common Empire and of our liberties—liberties of conscience, liberties of individual action within the laws, liberties of thought, the liberties that flourish everywhere throughout the British Empire. (Applause.)

These considerations I recognize, cannot be judged by a Special Commission, but I do submit to you, gentlemen, that a Special Commission would be most valuable, comprising representatives of the whole British Empire—and I may remark that I hope the inclusion of India will be strongly supported by the distinguished Indian administrator who is with us at this meeting—a Special Commission would be invaluable for the purpose of helping public appreciation, of helping the judgment of the public with whom the decision of this matter must ultimately depend, of helping the public appreciation of the trade, business, and commercial bearings of this question in respect of national, and, if you adopt our words also, "International trade relations." (Applause.)

I have only a very few words more to add in conclusion. I hope I have said nothing to disturb the feelings of any of my colleagues who may not entirely agree with me on some aspects of this question, I have endeavoured to avoid that to the utmost of my ability—I believe that I shall be followed presently, by my chief, our chairman, with whose geniality you are all acquainted, and whose shrewdness and good judgment we all value so highly. I think, gentlemen, he will confirm me that we of the London Chamber, in common with our colleagues of the whole United Kingdom, yield to nobody in our appreciation of the great value of the coherency of the British Empire, which belongs to all our fellow subjects as it does to us. (Hear, hear and applause.) We of the United Kingdom are, I might say, the leading factor; but you of the colonies and dependencies are essential co-efficients. Let me then say this, that we should welcome everything,—and it is in that spirit that we have assented to this resolution—we would welcome every influence that can foster or benefit commercial intercourse within the Empire and which is consistent with the welfare of our population—a consideration referred to by the Manchester resolution and which, in so far as their resolution expresses that sentiment, is warmly sympathetic to us.

I will content myself now, by thanking you for the patience with which you have listened to my mainly unpremeditated remarks, owing to the late hour with which I was charged with the duty of seconding this resolution. I leave in your hands this resolution with the conviction that if you pass it, you would thus help towards a well-considered solution of the problem, and you will strengthen the hands of whoever may compose our Home Government, for the problem is not, I think, likely to be finally settled this year, or next year, or perhaps for a very considerable period. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: I now call upon the Honorable George A. Drummond, of Montreal.

HONORABLE SENATOR GEORGE A. DRUMMOND (Montreal Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have only to say one or two simple words in support of the resolution you have heard read. I think it is a matter of great consequence to this country and the Mother Country, because I think a meeting such as this cannot be without great influence towards the future legislation of both, and I think we should apparently agree without a dissentient voice upon the framing of a resolution such as this. But in view of the eloquent manner in which the proposal of this resolution has been made and seconded, I can only see it to be my duty to attempt to use one or two simple words as addressed by a man of business to an assembly of men of business on this occasion. The resolution in itself states that it is the bounden duty of the legislature to whom may be entrusted the carrying out of the policy foreshadowed in the resolution, not to look to bargaining as the first, or sole duty that they have to perform, but also that the question of sentiment for the first time enters into any resolution of the kind which has been passed upon by this body. The previous resolution which is of record in the annals of the Congress utters that an advantageous bond of commercial union will be an excellent thing—I do not remember the exact words, but this resolution goes further than that, and recognizes for the first time, to the best of my knowledge, the fact that kinship counts for something in regard to commercial dealings. (Applause.) Now, while I hold that the only true basis on which we can frame a bond of union is an arrangement which can be supposed reasonably to be mutually advantageous to all the contracting parties. I hold that if one was supposed to get much the better of the other

it would be a source of disunion rather than of union, and I for my part would scan the whole terms on which a mutual arrangement could be made rigidly and carefully to see that not only did I secure what I considered to be in my interests, but also to see that I got no more. Now, while saying so much, I certainly would be very far from excluding sentiment. Sentiment, in my view, has been one of the great factors of the race from the very first hour of its history. (Hear, hear.) Sentiment has launched nations before now into deadly enterprises, not only in disregard of their material interests, but actually in defiance of them. Sentiment carried to South Africa thousands of our sons, and it would be a sorry day for us when the sentiment of devotion to our sovereign, loyalty to the throne, pride in the noble record of our race, and in the glory of a United Empire, has no influence upon our actions.

Gentlemen, if in any way I be supposed in landing sentiment as a possible factor in framing matters of business—if it be supposed that in saying that I in any way infringe upon the great question of free trade, I hasten in the most emphatic language to disclaim any such intention, the more especially as a late controversialist in one of the London papers declared that in his opinion you might as well question the ten commandments, so that in anything that I say, if I were to speak all day,—I should carefully guard myself against anything which would raise debate upon or infringe upon the unity or unanimity with which I hope we will agree to the carrying of this resolution, and put it on record as part of the duty of our Congress.

But notwithstanding that, I reiterate the sentiment that an equal, fair and honorable treaty of commerce must be the basis of any settlement which we can profitably make in the future.

The opinion has been freely expressed that the preferential tariff which was adopted by our country some time ago has been of little value in promoting the trade between the two countries. I apprehend that in saying that the true intentions of the tariff and the influence it has had upon the relative business of the country, has probably not been correctly apprehended. I maintain that the preferential tariff has been a solid and growing measure. And the figures which with your permission I shall give on that point, will well carry out what I have said. I trust that you will bear with me for a moment to place them before you. (Yes, yes.)

In appreciating the effect of the preferential treaty I do not think that the influence of Trusts in the United States has been sufficiently taken into account. Industry in the United States has of late years assumed the position of a disciplined army acting under the influence of one mind upon all points. Let me give one or two facts.

The following figures show the growth of the special rebate granted by Canada to British goods since 1898, when it first became operative:—

Year.	Valuc.
1898.....	\$ 927,133
1899.....	1,961,764
1900.....	1,880,322
1901.....	2,640,000
1902.....	2,864,000
1903.....	3,534,000

Total.....\$13,807,219

This does not include other years during which time no record was kept, but I think we are justified in saying that these figures would be, in round numbers \$14,000,000. Now the Montreal Board of Trade which I appear for to-day, has never

flattered in expressing, in season and out of season, the principles which I apprehend are the only correct principles. But before leaving the question of a preferential tariff, I would ask your attention to one other subject, which will occupy only a moment. One of the features of the resolution which you are asked to-day to deal with is, that it not only deals with the trade direct, between this country and the Mother Country,—which, of course, is of surpassing importance—but it deals with the trade between the component parts of the Empire, and in that light no one can say the figures I am now going to quote are an unimportant factor. The trade between Canada and the British West Indies, which part of the Empire, as you know, has recently had to go the Mother Country for financial assistance—the total trade in their staple product of sugar, for the three years preceding the adoption of the preferential tariff, was not over 10,513 tons on an average. Under the influence of the preferential tariff, this has gradually grown until it now exceeds 20,000 tons on a three year average or double what it was previously, and it is in my power to say that during the present year of 1903, the importation of British West Indies sugar to Canada will considerably exceed 60,000 tons. But the preferential tariff—and I hope I may be excused one moment in going into these details, because I apprehend one of the features of the resolution is that it by no means trenches on the possibilities of the future, but lays down principles—I may be excused, I say, in holding that a preferential tariff framed on the principle of a general rebate over the whole list of imports is, in my opinion, a totally unworkable arrangement. It is manifest that the discount or rebate of thirty-three and a third per cent. on duties of five to ten per cent. amounts to very little practically. But a rebate of thirty-three and one-third per cent. upon a duty of thirty per cent. may be too much and may bear hardly upon some local industries. Now, one of the features of the resolution is that whatever measure may be adopted, shall have due consideration for the fiscal needs of the component parts of the Empire. I do not hesitate for a moment to give as my opinion of such an arrangement as that, that the new union shall bear a proportion to the fiscal needs of the Empire which must be adjusted so as to bear not hardly on any of our local institutions or industries. (Hear, hear.)

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce have put upon record their opinion. The first item of their dissent is "that no policy can be satisfactory which sacrifices the industries of any self-governing portion of the Empire," and to that I give my emphatic approval. But gentlemen, the Board of Trade of Montreal went further than that, and affirmed that Canada was producing constantly, an increasing quantity of the supplies which the British West Indies required. The great North-West, which only a few years ago was a barren place, the home of the trapper and hunter, is now producing vast quantities and increasing quantities too, of the grain which is required for the food of the people. That part of Canada produced last year 67,000,000 bushels of wheat, and 50,000,000 of other grain. The Canadian Pacific Railway sold to immigrants and cultivators last year 2,639,000 acres. Over and above that, quantities of land were sold by the Government to private owners, and during last year and the first seven months of this, over a hundred and fifty thousand immigrants entered into that territory. I think it would be imprudent to place limits upon the possibilities of the future. (Hear, hear.)

Another point, as to the foreign trade of Canada. This was in 1886, \$189,675,000, and in 1903 it had become over \$467,000,000. Canada per capita does the third largest trade in the world, being exceeded only

by Great Britain and Belgium. It has nearly three times the trade per capita of the United States, or in the neighborhood of \$84 per head of the population of Canada, to \$30 per head in the United States. And I think I am justified in saying that the colonies are even now increasing their per capita trade more rapidly than any other part of the British Empire.

The important question is regarding the Motherland. Is she to draw her supplies from her own children or from a stranger? That question is to be the gist of the whole discussion, and I trust the Imperial Government will be wisely led to such a measure of policy as will carry out in spirit and practice the resolution which I have had the honor to speak to, and which I trust you will see carried out to-day, and adopted unanimously. (Cheers).

Let your support of the resolution put on record for all time, "that over and above all possible material benefits from closer business relations; relations however, which must be fair, equitable and advantageous to all concerned, there is the love of country, and the desire to weld together still more firmly the widely scattered Empire. (Cheers).

LORD BRASSEY called on Mr. Boulton representing the London Chamber of Commerce.

MR. R. W. DILLON (St. Mary's, Ont.): Mr. Chairman: Is it not understood that there is some definite limit for the speakers outside of the mover and seconder and should not that limit be adhered to? At the rate we are now proceeding, we will have a great many long speeches and several who desire to speak will be unable to do so. I think that the time limit should be strictly adhered to.

LORD BRASSEY: Well, gentlemen, I hope that you will be indulgent this afternoon. I say that, because the next speaker is a gentleman who has long devoted himself to this subject and has some special claim. Standing before you as the figure of justice, holding even the scales, we have only heard one side by now. However, there will be other speakers.

MR. S. B. BOULTON (London Chamber of Commerce): My Lord President and my colleagues of the first Imperial Industrial Parliament that has ever been held on colonial soil, I rise to support the resolution of the Dominion Chambers and of the London Chamber of Commerce (applause). This is not the first time that I have visited your broad and beautiful land, a land of brown heath and shaggy wood, a land of mountain and flood, a land of beautiful, broad, navigable rivers, a land of fields teeming with vegetation and with infinite possibilities for the future, the home of the great nation which I hope it will be. (Applause). I return to Canada an old man with the best years of my life behind me, and I am reminded that this very question was being discussed in almost the same terms twenty-two years ago when I visited Montreal and Ottawa. At Ottawa I had the great, the distinguished pleasure of being introduced to one of your greatest statesmen, Sir John Macdonald (cheers). Gentlemen, I had a conversation with him so interesting and one which so deeply engraved itself upon my mind, that I took copious notes at the time, of what he said. Ten years afterwards that great statesman died, and at the request of some friends in Canada, I wrote an account of that interview. It was published in the "Nineteenth Century." Having in view the meeting which was to take place at this time, I thought that perhaps it would be interesting to you to be reminded of what that great statesman said twenty-two years ago. I, therefore, have had reproduced in pamphlet form that article from the "Nineteenth Century," and I have had copies printed and distributed amongst you. I hope you will find it of interest to you. (Hear, hear).

Yes, I say that this is no new question. It is not a question suddenly thrust upon you by a Minister

of the Crown. He has merely taken it up as it has been brought forward and discussed (first by Sir John Macdonald, for if you will read that pamphlet you will see that he spoke to me upon exactly the very issues which you are discussing to-day), and time after time at meetings of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, this question has been discussed. Some of us who were members of the Imperial Federation League discussed it often and often. It has been discussed all over England. Your eloquent countryman, Colonel Denison, has opened our eyes very considerably to many points, which I think, were rather vague before in this matter.

Now, gentlemen, before I go further, let me confirm if you please, what has been said already. I am here as a delegate of the London Chamber of Commerce, and we are expressly forbidden to commit that Chamber on the question of a preferential tariff; not because they are not considering it seriously, but because they have not yet consulted the whole of their Chamber, as they will do later on the subject. Therefore, whenever I say anything which shows the enormous interest which the London Chamber of Commerce takes in the Canadian people and their prosperity, and the warmth which is felt towards them, you will know that I am representing the London Chamber of Commerce. But when I say anything on the preferential tariff, please remember that I am speaking only my own individual opinion. On this subject I think that everyone on both sides should express their opinion. (Hear, hear.) The resolution has been a resolution of compromise. It is to show that we, as well as the Dominion Chambers, are disposed to undertake and are undertaking, a serious investigation. It is so worded. It does not commit us to any positive opinion, one side or the other of the question of a preferential tariff.

Now, gentlemen, if you will have patience with me while I express my own views, let me tell you what my own opinion is on the matter which is before us and on the general trade question. Gentlemen, I am a free trader, I am the son of a free trader. I was brought up as a free trader. I sat at the feet of the free trade Gamaliels, Adam Smith and Richard Cobden. I still retain fully that opinion which I gathered from Adam Smith and his great work, that free trade is a gospel for all humanity, and that it should be adopted by all nations. (Applause). When all agree to produce those articles of merchandise, crops, etc., which their soil and their genius and their industrial capacities are best fitted for, and when they freely exchange with all other nations, that is the true gospel. That is what Adam Smith taught. But Adam Smith taught something else. He did not suppose that the millennium was coming so soon. On the contrary he had grave doubts whether it would ever come. When a nation finds adopted against it a system of tariffs or bounties, then Adam Smith, that great free trader, said that it is the duty of the statesmen of that country to set up retaliatory tariffs. (Applause).

I want the free trade that Adam Smith propounded and yearned for. Now, we will go on to Cobden. I was a young man in those days, 1840-46, but I remember I was old enough as a youth, to study closely those great movements. You all know the agitation there was about the corn laws. Cobden did a very great work. He prepared the way to give cheap food to our teeming millions in England, a work which no man in his senses would attempt to undo. But, great as it was, he made some mistakes. Cobden, in the generosity of his heart, believed free trade was such a true gospel that if we only threw open our doors in England, all the nations of the world would follow. So sanguine was he that he said, "It may be five or six years or more, before all the nations of the world become free

traders." Have they become free traders? (No, no"). He said: "This will be an enormous benefit for the whole country, and as to agriculture, so far from being a detriment to it, it will be an improvement to it. There will be more corn grown in England after free trade has been established than before." Has that turned out to be correct? ("No"). So you see, gentlemen, I have in the course of my experience, begun to waiver, not about the principles of free trade, but as to whether we have gone the right way to produce it. We have not got free trade in England—we have free imports, which is an excellent thing, but it does not mean free trade altogether.

There are two things essential to the benefit of a nation. One is, it should be well fed, and at as cheap a rate as possible, and the other is, that there should be plenty of employment for its working classes. We cannot do without food, but if you don't have proper employment, well paid, it goes rather hard for the working population to get its food at all. If we had followed the advice of Adam Smith, should we, or should we not in Great Britain have had so many hostile tariffs against us. Lord Salisbury, in replying to a deputation, said: "It is very difficult for our Foreign Office to make any bargain with foreign countries, because we have nothing to give in exchange." You remember the old distich of George Canning, who was a great statesman and who in speaking of Holland, said:

"In matters of customs, the fault of the Dutch,  
Is in giving too little and asking too much."

Adding "nous frappons mynheer avec twenty percent."

I think it is a subject of enquiry as to whether for the purpose of promoting, if not altogether free trade, a greater amount of free trade than at present, we should revise our tariff arrangements, so as to have something to exchange, and I don't think we need fear anything very much about tariff wars. Foreign countries are not so foolish as some people take them for (hear, hear).

Coming to the question of colonies, which has for us the greatest interest at the present time here, in talking to Sir John Macdonald about this question, he said, "We are a young country, and cannot do without some protective duties, and with a young country like this, with a straggling and sparse population, all direct taxation would be very unpopular. Therefore, we are obliged to put on these duties. If we can be met by the Mother Country, we are willing to give preferential duties in favor of the Mother Country."

Well, we cannot possibly make the bread of our toiling millions dear. You have six or seven millions spread over a boundless expanse of country. We have forty millions cooped up in two small islands, and they must be fed without making their bread dear; but I don't believe the statesman who has been alluded to by one or two speakers, is so foolish or unpatriotic as to wish to propose anything which will make the bread of the English people dear. I am quite sure if he did so, he would strike the knell of his own political career at once. We tried the experiment, a small one, of putting on a shilling duty during the war. We took it off; the price did not go down. With a shilling duty it is evident we cannot do much harm. I don't know how far we can go without doing much harm. If two shillings were too much, then we might try one and sixpence.

There is another point which you might think of interest. It came into my head last night. Our friend Col. Denison gave some figures. He was quoting the annual consumption of wheat in the United Kingdom. He said it was twenty-nine million and odd quarters, and of that quantity, six and a quarter millions were grown in Great Britain, six millions came from the colonies

and seventeen and a half millions came from foreign countries; so that we are, as we all know, indebted for the vast bulk of the food we eat to foreign countries and not to our colonies. Now it stands somewhat like this, sir, say seventeen and one half from foreign countries, six and one-quarter from Great Britain, and six from the colonies. Supposing we put on a shilling duty, but on the foreign supply only, what shall we do with the money so raised? Do not be afraid of bogey words. Supposing that the shilling which we raised on foreign wheat were divided, as a bounty, amongst our Colonial and British suppliers, how much would that shilling give? It would give one shilling and five pence per quarter on our home grown and colonial grown supplies. That is to say, foreigners would pay us one shilling duty on their wheat imported, whilst the Colonial and British grown would get one shilling and five pence bounty. This would be equivalent to a preference of two shillings and five pence per quarter in favour of the Colonial and British growers. Is that impossible? Is it foolish? It may be, but at any rate it is one way of getting over that difficulty. (Applause). Gentlemen, this question is going to be discussed to the very bottom; there are so many ardent men now connected with it on both sides of the question that you may depend upon it that it will never be allowed to slip again, not without some modification at all events in my opinion in our present system, and we ardently desire, ay, the most extreme free traders desire, that everything which possibly can be done to meet the views of our colonies in the matter of trade shall be done and will be done. (Applause).

At the third conference of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, a distinguished political economist, Lord Farrar, was present, and I myself heard him say: "It seems to me almost immoral to open up the question of free trade again." A good deal of water has gone under London Bridge since then. We are all of us rather immortal. Lord Farrar's observations were correct on that point, and we are enquiring about it.

Gentlemen, we of the London Chamber of Commerce, hope then that this investigation will be productive of much good, not only to us at home, but also to you. We hope the issue may be the increasing of the bonds of fraternity and brotherhood between the colonies and the Mother Country, and gentlemen, there are very few men in England, in the whole Empire, who dare call themselves, "Little Englanders." We are all, at least most of us are, Imperialists. We all do desire this great union, this machine which I hope Providence has constructed for the welfare of the whole human race—we all seriously hope that it may go on in peace and prosperity. (Applause).

Let me finish by quoting the words of an American poet, words which he attributed to the United States, comparing that union to a ship, but which we may well apply to the united British Empire:

"Sail on, O Union strong and great,  
Humanity with all its fears and all its hopes of future years,  
Is hanging breathless on thy fate."

(Applause).

MR. ROBERT MEIGHEN (Montreal Board of Trade): Mr. President, my Lord, and Gentlemen of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.—In rising to support this vital resolution, permit me to say how much I appreciate the importance of this great gathering, of all who desire the perpetuation of the British Empire, of those to whom that Empire appears as it were, the pillars from which spring the arches of our most enlightened civilization, must rejoice to contribute any service which shall tend to strengthen the foundations upon which those pillars are built.

The previous speaker has alluded to Adam Smith's theory of protection and free trade. Let me quote the remarks of Burke, that eminent British states-



argument,—because a country prosperous under certain conditions then those conditions must be good.

On my return from the North-West on May 18th, 1896, I gave an interview to the press, in which I said—"I feel satisfied that the Dominion of Canada possesses two-thirds of the wheat producing belt of the North American Continent, and if the statesmen of the country will only give preferential trade with England, the Dominion, and England's immense heritage in the North-West, will blossom like the rose.

"We should set the ball rolling by offering to lower our tariff at least 10% in favour of the Mother Country, that is, if our tariff averages thirty, reduce it to twenty in favour of the Mother Country."

From this, gentlemen, you will observe that we held these opinions strongly seven years ago. Therefore, it is to be presumed we are sincere in the policy that we advocate. Permit me to say, while we advocate a Preferential tariff with the Mother Country, and hold these opinions firmly, believing they are in the interest of the great Empire to which we all are so proud to belong, we admit the right of you, or those who differ from us, to hold strong contrary opinions, equally and conscientiously and as sincerely as we adhere to ours.

Now, let it be distinctly understood that there is no dictation from the colonies, and there is no Canadian who will stand up and advocate the taxing of the poor man's bread. We are believers that by taxing the foreign foodstuffs and admitting colonial free, you will reduce the cost of the poor man's loaf. We are in favour of a policy which will free the British Empire from being under the control of any foreign nation for its food supply. (Applause.)

Your flag floats over our boundless western prairies, that have been handed to us bright and fresh from the hands of their maker, and capable of sustaining a population of fifty million of people. We are unbelievers that by putting a tax on England's foreign foodstuffs, that the consumer will contribute to that tax—we take the ground that it is the producer.

Now, apply the proper medicine—put 1s. 8d. per quarter on wheat and 1s. 8d. on 280 pounds of flour imported from all foreign countries, and you will accomplish the end we have in view; you will then make the western prairies blossom like the rose.

It is a lamentable position for a great Empire like Britain to be under the control of a foreign country for its supply. Does the great mass of the British people understand and appreciate the fact that they hold two-thirds of the wheat producing belt of the North American Continent? Are they aware of the fact that forty thousand farmers placed on our western prairies produce annually sixty million bushels of wheat, and do they understand that Great Britain requires to import yearly on an average one hundred and seventy million bushels of wheat, or its equivalent in flour? Then, it is not much of a mathematical problem to find out how many more farmers we would require placed on our boundless prairies to raise all the wheat that Great Britain requires. Give us one hundred and twenty thousand more farmers, and we will supply the British Empire with all her foodstuffs, or increase it to two hundred thousand, and we will supply all the breadstuffs, cattle, butter, cheese and all the provisions that are consumed in the British Isles.

We ask you to adopt the policy that will drive immigration under the British flag—put a duty on foreign cereals and allow the colonies free, and we will produce more than you will require. Where does the tax on the poor man's loaf come in, if you receive the products of the colonies as free as the free air that God has given you gratis? (Hear, hear).

Supply and demand regulate the market value of

any commodity in any market of the world. Take the American nation to the South of us,—their surplus products are worth no more to them than the fertilizer in the barnyard, unless they find a market. Yours is the great consuming market for the surplus foodstuffs of the world. They ship their surplus products to you as the largest consuming market, and they are met with a tax for the privilege of selling in your market. They, the producers, beyond question, have to pay that tax, and the revenue derived in that way enables you to reduce your tax on the poor man.

When you are receiving all the products you require from your colonies, and we make bold to say, in a very short time more than you require, then the foreigner forcing his goods on your market contributes towards your revenue. Where does the tax come in? By what process of reasoning can it be made out that you are taxing the poor man's loaf?

You are aware, gentlemen, when we gave the Mother Country Preferential trade, the only return so far that we have received is a slap in the face from Germany. Although our tariff against that country was not one-half of the American, yet they have almost placed a prohibitory tariff against Canada. We find that the cereals which we export to that country are met with something like double the tax that the American has to pay, and our Government for several years have been moving, so to speak, heaven and earth to have that tax removed equal to the American. We were unable to accomplish this. If the German consumer paid that tax, then it is plain that our energies in striving to have the discrimination against us removed are useless. The fact of the matter is the Canadian producer paid that tax, not the German consumer.

We in Canada have risen to the occasion—we have retaliated by increasing our tariff against the German, and they reply: "We will hold the Canadian market for our goods and pay the extra duties imposed." Thus is the producer paying the tax, not the consumer.

I will illustrate in the following way: An American ship to a German port, on board a certain vessel, fifty thousand bushels of corn, and the Canadian ship fifty thousand bushels of corn, consigned to a commission house, at a German port. The goods are sold, and each shipment commands the same price on the German market, and account sales are rendered to the American, deducting the German tariff of 5c per bushel; the account sales are rendered to the Canadian, deducting 10c. per bushel. Thus, the Canadian receives 5c. per bushel for his grain less than the American. Does the consumer pay or the producer? Evidently, and beyond question, the producer.

Now, permit me to draw your attention for a moment to the proceedings, or, at least, to a very important resolution that was carried at the Millers' National Federation of the United States, which assembled in convention in Detroit in June last, composed of three hundred and sixty representative business men—most strongly and especially favored the fullest possible measure of reciprocity with Canada. That this Millers' National Federation, representing a manufacturing industry embracing upwards of ten thousand separate establishments, having a combined annual production of five hundred million dollars, and involving a labor expenditure of over twenty million, why should this powerful organization specially desire reciprocity with our Dominion? It is because, and too great consideration cannot be given to the fact, because, according to their own resolution, the enormous and steadily increasing surplus of Canadian grown wheat thrown upon the markets of Great Britain, depreciates the price of their flour abroad, and enables foreign millers to undersell his American competitor, and lowers the selling price of the entire wheat crop of the United States.

One of the most influential speakers at the convention declared that the reason Canada had been specially mentioned in the resolution was with the idea of holding off any possible agreement that might be made between Great Britain and her North American colonies. He declared if such an agreement were made, whereby Canadian exporters would be benefited, it would prove to be a sad blow to the export interests of the United States.

Another influential exporter said: All the general conditions point towards an ever increasing menace. The Canadian Northwest is rapidly becoming populated, and in a short time the present crop will be more than doubled. There is but one thing for the American millers to do, and that is to have a great part of the Canadian wheat diverted to the seaboard through the United States where it can be ground into flour, and he further said, all millers would be deeply interested in the importation of Canadian wheat into this country, whereby all would be directly benefited by a larger supply. If we do not bring this reciprocal process to a focus, we may forever lose our chance of doing so.

In a lecture recently delivered before the Furniture Association of America in New York, upon reciprocity with Canada, in this lecture Mr. Fos declared that Canada is only separated from us by a tariff barrier. He said the British Colonial Secretary, discerning with the keen eye of a business man the inevitable result which must follow politically where the ties of commerce bind closest, has started the world with a revolutionary plan designed in part to quell our American agitation, and hold their colonies to the Mother Country by the bonds of trade. (Hear, hear.)

Here are two points worthy of great consideration. First, that the increased export of Canadian wheat has already lowered the price of the United States bread stuffs in the English market, that is to say, that the grower of wheat and the manufacturer of flour has had to accept a lower price because of our Canadian competition.

You are aware that when you imposed a duty, and which you baptized by the name of Registration Dues, at the moment the price of flour appreciated something like 1s. per sack of 280 pounds, yet you must bear in mind at the same time the raw material advanced on the American continent more than the price flour appreciated in your market. Therefore, the consumer did not contribute on account of the duty imposed. Lately this Registration Tax or Duty was removed, and we find that the price of flour has appreciated in your market something like 2s. 6d. per sack,—the market price of all wheat in the world being on a higher basis. The imposing of the duty in April, 1902, or the removal of the duty in July last, cut no figure whatever in the price of flour in the United Kingdom. The changes in the market value were caused by supply and demand, and the governing price of the raw material at the place of production.

By imposing a tax on all foreign bread stuffs, and food supplies, you will drive immigration from the British Isles and foreign countries under your own flag in the North American continent. They will produce more than you require, and the foreigner will still continue to send his surplus to your market, paying the duty imposed by you for the privilege of selling in your market, and you will at once place the British Empire in the position of being self-sustaining for its food supply. You are at present believers that it is the United States of America on whom you depend for the bread you eat. This is an unenviable position, almost between abandoned hope and absolute despair. This position you are placed in by your free trade policy, whereas a contrary

policy would drive immigration under your own flag, and free you from the control of a foreign nation for your food supply. (Applause.)

Once you place a protective tariff on American food stuffs, the Washington Government would hear music from their western prairies that they never heard before. The American farmer would realize the fact that England being the great consumer of his surplus products, had imposed a tax on account of the high protective tariff raised by his own country against England, and he finds that the hinge on his barn door, which has been hedged round by a protective tariff of 90%, and the corporation manufacturing that hinge declaring yearly dividends of from 20 to 30%, he, the farmer, contributing to provide that dividend. The American farmer realizing that he has to pay the tax imposed on his goods entering into the British market, and the English consumer also realizing that he had not to contribute towards that tax, would agitate for a higher protective tariff. The American farmer would demand from the Washington Government a reduction in the tariff against Great Britain, their best customer, and as the agricultural population of the United States is something like 57% of the entire population, the Washington Government would at once say, "Don't shoot and I'll come down."

Don't be afraid of the American, for I can assure you, although I do not say and I do not believe if they had the power they would pluck the sun out of the Heavens to put the greater part of the North American continent and the British Empire in commercial darkness, yet I do say they would use all legitimate means that God and man has put at their disposal to sidetrack the Dominion of Canada and the British Empire commercially.

In conclusion let me say that we are strong believers in the policy enunciated by the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain. We believe him to be the brightest jewel in the political Crown of your Great Empire, and we also believe that that jewel was set, cut and fashioned by his own hand. (Hear, hear.)

It is your duty to rise to the occasion and defend yourselves against our aggressive American neighbours by adopting a policy to drive immigration under the British flag.

Commerce is war, it is commercial war. You have the same right to defend your island against commercial war as you had to defend your subjects in South Africa. In the one case you had guns to defend and to capture the fortresses in Africa. Commercially you are without ammunition at present, you might as well attempt to capture a fortress without guns, as deal with a foreign nation under present conditions,—you have nothing to offer them. (Hear, hear.)

Our preference, as I have said, we have given you freely. We have to do more than that. We should contribute our fair share towards the defense of the Empire. We have already done something in that way, for you must needs remember on that eventful day when it was alleged by the enemies of our Empire that the destinies of the British flag hung trembling in the balance in South Africa. We find that our boys stood shoulder to shoulder with the Imperial forces on the far off hills and sands of Africa. Yes, and if history is correct, our soldiers stood in the front of the battle and cemented the ties that bind us to the Mother Country with their blood. Our policy is to maintain the Empire. Shall we have an Empire, or shall we have an island? (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: I think I shall be using the discretion entrusted to me if I assume that we have now almost exhausted your powers of listening for the

afternoon. (No, no). Then the first name on my list is Mr. Harvey Dawe, of Plymouth.

Mr. R. HARVEY DAWE (Plymouth Chamber of Commerce): My Lords and Gentlemen: I scarcely expected to be called upon this afternoon, but I am commissioned by our Chamber at Plymouth in the first place to send a hearty greeting in the name of our Chamber and of our town to our Canadian brethren met here in this fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire. The resolution to this effect was moved by the Mayor of our City, seconded by the ex-Mayor, and carried with the heartiest unanimity, and I am requested to convey that to you to-day. I have that pleasure just now. (Applause.)

I come from Plymouth, the town of which Elihu Burritt on his celebrated walk from London to Land's End said: "Plymouth, old Plymouth, mother of forty Plymouths up and down the wide world, who wear her memory in their names, write it in the baptismal records of their children and before the date of every out-going letter. This is the Mother sitting by the sea."

I have now only to say that at Plymouth we have discussed this matter on four separate and distinct occasions. The question of free trade, protection and preferential tariff has been before our Chamber repeatedly and has been argued pro and con as far as we could go. And although our Chamber, I am bound to say, is a free trade Chamber, I am instructed to say that we heartily approve of the proposal, as it appeared in the agenda from the London Chamber, that a full inquiry into this matter should take place in order to see whether there could be any resolution proposed to consider the possibility of increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire, but that we believe that the taxation of food supplies and raw materials is undesirable and would be detrimental to the interest of the people of this country and injurious to the British Empire. I

am bound to say that in the name of my Chamber, and whatever the result of our discussion here to-day or to-morrow may be, I beg that our Canadian friends will feel that the feeling of kinship to which I have referred will be in no way lessened if we do not carry the resolution exactly as our brethren from Canada desire. This is a matter which has received the attention of every Chamber I suppose, in the United Kingdom, and we do not quite see the necessity and the fairness of taxing the forty-one millions of our country for the benefit of about ten millions of our colonies. We were told yesterday that the tax was paid by the consumer. It was distinctly stated yesterday, that the tax was paid by the consumer, and we are distinctly told to-day that it is paid by the producer. Now, between these two there is plenty of field for a warm discussion, and possibly to-morrow we may have this threshed out, but I do not think it will be settled, and I will just ask this question: If this tax is going to be paid by the producer, then how is it going to benefit Canada? Why do you want to tax yourselves, and that is what you will do if this tax is paid by the producer. We, as the consumers, object to paying it—we object to taxing our forty-one millions for the benefit of your ten millions, and I do not see why you wish to tax your ten millions, and that is what you will be doing if it is true that the producer pays the tax. (Hear, hear.)

Now there are other points that I wanted to bring forward, but I expected to have spoken to-morrow, and I confess that I am not quite prepared this afternoon with all the details that I wished to bring forward. I thank you for listening to me thus far.

The CHAIRMAN: I propose that we do now adjourn. Sir William Holland will move the adjournment.

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I beg to move that we do now adjourn until to-morrow forenoon.

The meeting adjourned at 5.35 p.m. until to-morrow (Wednesday) morning.

### THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th, 1903.

The Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire resumed this morning at ten o'clock; Lord Brassey in the chair.

#### LORD STRATHCONA'S RECEPTION.

The CHAIRMAN: I have to make the announcement that notwithstanding that a notice has been issued for several days past on the board outside Mr. Murray's room, many delegates are unaware of the invitation issued by Lord Strathcona for a reception at his house this evening from 9.30 to 11.30. I hope the delegates may take the opportunity to attend Lord Strathcona's reception. The invitation, as you are aware, includes the members of your several families.

#### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY, HER COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

The CHAIRMAN: Sir William Holland, who moved the adjournment of the debate yesterday, will be the first to address you this morning, and, as opportunity was given for four successive speakers from the one point of view yesterday, it is suggested that Sir William Holland should be followed by another speaker from that side, and after that we will endeavor, as far as we can, to take the speakers alternately, as one does in the Legislative Chamber, where Greek meets Greek, and I hope the tug of war will end in a peaceful solution.

SIR WILLIAM H. HOLLAND, M.P. (Association of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, London): Lord Brassey, fellow members of the Congress: I have noticed since I had the privilege of setting foot in Canada, and also from speeches of your prominent leaders which I had the opportunity of reading before reaching your shores, that every responsible Canadian statesman, almost every responsible Canadian business man, repudiates in his suggestion of fiscal changes any idea of inflicting injury on British industries. (Hear, hear.) That being so, Lord Brassey, I made the suggestion yesterday, and I now make the suggestion again to-day, in the presence of this great meeting, whether or not that unity which everyone hopes for cannot be got by friendly agreement in the shape of the introduction of one or two words in this resolution which would enable many of us to vote for it who otherwise would not be able to accord it their support. And I think, seeing there has been so much good feeling evident throughout this Congress from the moment our honorary president addressed us on the first day, and from the time you, Lord Brassey, followed it up with that admirable address of your own, there has been a feeling of mutual consideration, a desire to give and take, a desire to sympathize with those who take a somewhat different view from ours, and to meet the susceptibilities of those who do differ from us. That being so, Lord Brassey, if the introduction of a few words will induce that hearty good will and co-operation, and avoid

a division on this question, I do hope this great meeting will kindly consider their acceptance. The words I should very much like to see introduced into this resolution, are as follows: The last two lines in the resolution read now, "due consideration being given to the fiscal needs of the component parts of the Empire." If a few words can be put in, which exactly embody that idea, I think it would enable many of us to support the resolution. The closing lines would then read, "due consideration being given to the fiscal and industrial needs of the component parts of the Empire, with the view of avoiding injury to any." Now, I think, gentlemen, if you consider these words on their merits you will not be able to find any solid grounds of objection to them. I would like to know if the mover of the resolution would, in the interests of peace and conciliation, accept these words. I will read them again very slowly so that the Congress will understand them: "Due consideration being given to the fiscal and industrial needs of the component parts of the Empire with the view of avoiding injury to any." I should very much like to know if these words could possibly be accepted.

SEVERAL DELEGATES: Yes.

SIR WILLIAM H. HOLLAND: I must say I have spoken individually to a large number of Canadian gentlemen, and none of them see any objection to these words (hear, hear), and, as they will remove the objection many of us would have to voting for that resolution as it is, I do hope they will be accepted. I see Mr. Cockshutt has come in, and I would ask his consideration for the words, the addition of which I have suggested in as conciliatory a manner as I could. I do hope he will kindly accept the words I have suggested in the interests of peace, unanimity and good will.

MR. H. M. BEICHER (Winnipeg Board of Trade): My Lord, will these additional words carry the support of all those who have objection to make to the resolution, or is there a possibility of further additions being required later on?

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I only feel able to speak for those who come from Manchester, and Manchester has been regarded by some as a bit of a stumbling block. If you remove that stumbling block I do not think there will be much ground of objection left.

MR. ALEX. MCNEILL (Winnipeg, Ont.): I would ask if the gentleman who has just addressed us would accept an amendment to his proposed amendment and put in the words, "as far as possible."

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: Well, we do not expect, at any rate on our side of the ocean, we do not expect one to do the impossible. The limits of possibility, I imagine, would always operate.

MR. MCNEILL: Would these words be satisfactory?

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I shall have to consult our other friends from Manchester, and, as I cannot act without their authority, I think it would be better without these words.

COL. DENISON: I think before any change is made in the resolution it should go before the whole committee, and they should be given time to consider exactly the bearing and meaning of the two or three words which are suggested. (Applause.)

MR. MATHESON: Will the speaker kindly explain what is the object in asking the committee to add these words?

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: Yes, I will, with pleasure. The words as you have them there refer to the industrial needs of the component parts of the Empire. We do not want any industries in Canada or Australia or Great Britain to be penalized or handicapped or ser-

iously injured by any change in our fiscal policy. That, I believe, is the sentiment which, as I have already said, prevails among Canadian statesmen and leading Canadian business men. The last few words, "with a view of avoiding injury to any," are intended to soothe the susceptibilities of those who are afraid of being injured in some way or other, and I think may win for your resolutions a very general degree of consent and support.

MR. COCKSHUTT: Mr. President, Lord Brassey, and Gentlemen: I regret that I was not in the room when the question was asked and I have not yet thoroughly grasped the meaning of our Manchester friend. It is true we have looked upon Manchester with a slightly sceptical eye, and I am instructed that I cannot agree to the amendment asked without the full consent of my colleagues, and that if I did so the result would be that another amendment would be at once offered. I may say I have been somewhat criticized already for yielding as far as we have done to our friends from over the water. We have shown a disposition to meet them as far as possible and we have inserted words to pacify them and please them as far as possible, but I am sure this Congress would not be satisfied with me nor would my friends accept me as a leader if I did not strike out for a straight vote on a great principle. (Applause). Anything that would change the resolution we cannot consent to without the assent of those by whom we have been instructed. I cannot see any way but for the discussion to continue for the time being and the committee to retire, or else that the speaker should defer his remarks until we have an opportunity to consult. I cannot myself take the responsibility of inserting any words that would alter the meaning of the resolution as it stands.

ALD. G. R. HOOD (North Shields): I think that we could go on now and hear what is to be said by Sir William Holland. I would suggest that this be done and that during the luncheon hour, the committee meet and see if they can agree. I would suggest that there be no further change at present but that we go on with the resolution as it stands.

MR. MATHESON (Leeds): I would point out that we are not departing in any way from pre-arrangements by asking for this reconsideration. We shall not get a unanimous vote unless some such clause is inserted.

MR. GEO. HURST (Birstall): As a member from Yorkshire, I want to say that there are expressions of opinion there which exemplify that resolution, and I am not sure we can agree to alter the resolution unless it is submitted to the committee. That would be within their province. Let them settle it for us and then let us discuss the question.

GENERAL LAURIE: I cannot follow the suggestion of the member from Yorkshire. He says go on until dinner, and then see if we can settle our differences. We shall only make matters worse if we go on picking holes in the resolution. Surely it would be better to adjourn the discussion for an hour. We have plenty of other matter on the paper that we can go on with, and in the meantime the committee can retire and fully consider the bearings of the suggestion made. Therefore I venture to propose that this debate be adjourned for one hour in order that the committee may retire to consider the proposal. There is plenty of other matter on the agenda paper.

LORD BRASSEY: It is moved that we adjourn the debate for one hour. Carried by a commanding majority.

MR. JOS. DIXON (Sheffield): Why should not Sheffield and Manchester and Leeds be represented on the committee, and not London only.



**GENERAL LAURIE:** My proposition was that the gentlemen who hold opposite views can meet together and can do as the Canadian and London delegates did yesterday. They met separately and communicated with one another, and arrived at a conclusion. The two opposing parties can meet separately and interchange their views, and so arrive at a conclusion.

**A DELEGATE:** The question has been dealt with by a certain committee, and I think it only right the same committee should be asked to meet together and consider the point raised by Sir William Holland. It will lead to no end of delay and further difficulty if you enlarge the committee.

**Mr. C. LANCASTER** (Liverpool Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): I think if you inquire, you will find the gentlemen representing Canada would desire to have a full and free expression of opinion.

**Mr. E. J. GILLESPIE** (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): The London Chamber has a resolution tabled. Our object was to save time, to get the Dominion resolutions amalgamated together, and if possible, to agree between London and the other Chambers, London having a large number of delegates here and a tabled resolution.

**Mr. JOSEPH DIXON** (Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): This arrangement which I have in my hand is the result of consolidation between London and Canada. If they are to meet again and discuss the resolution, we will never be done.

**Mr. GILLESPIE:** The fact is London, Manchester and Canada are the prime movers of the resolution, London having one, Canada ten and Manchester one. In order to get the matter into a common issue, I called a committee of Canadians, Manchester men and ourselves, and after getting the matter into a very satisfactory state, as far as Canadians consolidating their vote was concerned, I called a meeting of the London delegates on their own resolution, in order to try and bring them into issue, but did not succeed. If you allow me to take my committee into the committee room at the back, I think we shall come nearer a solution. I think you had far better—having succeeded in getting the issue to the close point we have—leave the matter in my hands; but if not, I am in yours.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Discussion between fifty persons at this juncture is really not necessary, and the views of those not directly represented are perfectly well known, and their interests will be fully safeguarded by the presence of Sir William Holland and the other representatives of the Manchester Chamber upon this committee. To increase the number will not advance progress. May it be understood we have agreed to an adjournment of the debate on this question for one hour.

Adjournment for an hour agreed to.

#### FAST MAIL SERVICE AND DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY AND THE COLONIES.

**Mr. ROBERT REFORD** (Montreal Board of Trade): My Lord and Gentlemen: The Montreal Board of Trade have done me the honor to ask me to propose what I think will be perhaps the most important resolution that will come before this Congress. Hear, hear. I have also been asked, gentlemen, to represent the Halifax Board of Trade, and the Manufacturing Board in this matter.

The resolution which I have to propose reads as follows:—

It is resolved "That this Congress considers it of the utmost importance to the interests of the Empire that the

United Kingdom and her colonies should adopt a policy under which lines of steamships will be secured and retained for (1) the provision of fast mail services on the several routes; and (2) the development and control of trade between the Mother Country and her possessions, and between the colonies themselves."

I may say gentlemen, that I have had no hand in the preparation of this resolution, but that I am entirely in accord with it, knowing as I do how much Canada has suffered from the want of proper mail and passenger service with Great Britain, and how much Canada has lost in the way of development owing to the want of this service. (Hear, hear.)

It will, I think, be a surprise to many of the gentlemen in this room, both from Canada and from England, to hear and know, that as admitted by two of our prominent Canadian Cabinet Ministers, Sir William Mulock, Postmaster-General, and Sir Richard Cartwright, Minister of Trade and Commerce of Canada, that although Canada has a subsidized fast mail and passenger service with Great Britain, yet, between 75% and 80% of Canada's mail and passengers go and come to-day through the United States. (Hear, hear.) Now, gentlemen, as a Congress of business men, I ask you if anything more suicidal to the interests of Canada than to allow our mails and passengers to go and come through a foreign country, an antagonistic country, a competing country, could have been devised by Canada's very worst enemies? I think it is ruinous to us, and that it is time that this is changed. (Hear, hear.)

Then let us look for a moment at the results of this policy and what effect it has had on Canada. Canada, as you all know,—and those of you who don't know have only to look at the maps which are hung up around this room—to see that Canada is a country with an area as great as the United States, and I think gentlemen, that Canada is a country, the peer of the United States in everything under God's heaven, that goes to make a country great, rich and prosperous. (Applause.) We have agricultural lands which, I think, the future will show to be ahead of anything in the United States. We have mineral wealth, we have forest wealth, we have waterways which reach half way across the continent. We have water powers unlimited. We have a geographical position second to nothing on this earth (applause), and we have a climate which is almost, I may say, designed by nature to raise up the hardiest and best race of men that this world has seen. (Applause.) Now, gentlemen, as a business man, I have been going backward and forward between Canada and Great Britain for over forty years, and I have had a great deal of intercourse with our friends in Great Britain, and whenever Canada and the United States came to be discussed together in Great Britain in a conversational way, I was met with the humiliating question, "What is Canada?" "Why, you are nothing at all, everything in North America worth having is bound up in the United States." Well, gentlemen, that feeling has been accentuated in England by the fact that the people of England see our mails and passengers going and coming via the United States, and one of the English poets has sneeringly said regarding Canada, "Why Canada is the land of the Lady of the Snows," you remember the assertion.

**A VOICE:** It was said as a compliment, not sneeringly.

**Mr. REFORD:** If said as a compliment it is a compliment that has done Canada much harm and made the world suppose that Canada is a country only fit for the lumberman and the hunter. Such statements regarding Canada are galling, and feeling them to be so I have been trying for some years to get the Canadian

Government to see that it is their duty in the interests of Canada to make a change in the Fast Mail and Passenger Service which they have been so uselessly subsidizing, and the question arises as to why it is that our mails and passengers come and go via a foreign port, and one, and a principal reason is, I think, owing to the infrequency of the Canadian service—which is a weekly one—which in this age of progress is absolutely useless and especially so when the United States, our competitor, offer us an almost daily service, and the needs of Canada require an almost daily service. As a business man, I cannot keep my letters back for a weekly service, I must send them by the quickest route to reach my English correspondents. And gentlemen, I think the necessity of this is also shown by the fact that the Canadian service in the way it has been given, is not up to the times. It runs for six months of the year by the St. Lawrence and six months by the Maritime Provinces. I do not want to say one word against Montreal and Quebec, but this thing has grown so grievous and so serious, that I would like Montreal and Quebec to sink all claims that they have, or think they have, towards being the terminus of the fast Canadian mail and passenger service, and change that service to a port from which it could be run all the year round (hear, hear), and thereby secure the greatest safety and the greatest speed. That port, gentlemen, I think, is Halifax. (Hear, hear). It is only an hour from the Atlantic Ocean. Then, gentlemen, the point comes in as to where the other terminus will be. On that point there is a great diversity of opinion. My idea is, that a mail service to be at its best, should run between the two nearest ports, so that it can be what it is meant to be, a quick service. In thinking over this matter and giving it the attention I have given it, I have been struck with the suitability of the port of Galway in Ireland. (Hear, hear). The distance between New York and Liverpool is 3,150 miles. The distance between Galway and Halifax is 2,090 miles. The average time of the fast steamships of the Cunard Line and the White Star Line between New York and Liverpool is 7 days. The average time for our mails and passengers between London and Montreal or Ottawa is ten days, seven of which are consumed upon the Atlantic Ocean. Now, I believe that were a line established between Galway and Halifax, that the Atlantic Ocean can be crossed in three days by twenty-five knot steamers—that the distance between London and Galway can be traversed via Kingston and Holyhead in 12 hours, and by the improvements which the Canadian Government now have in contemplation by running a short line between Halifax and Point Levis, the time between Halifax and Montreal can be reduced to fifteen hours, thus making the entire time of transit between London and Montreal or Ottawa for mails and passengers 4 days or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days, thereby cutting down the time of transit more than one-half. (Hear, hear).

This, however, is only one portion of the matter. In cutting down the time of transit one-half by the Galway-Halifax route, two steamers will be sufficient to do the same work as four steamers between Liverpool and New York, and in that way the Government of Canada can put on "By-weekly steamers between Halifax and Galway," at the same cost as the weekly lines now cost between Montreal, Quebec and Liverpool, or between New York and Liverpool. Two boats doing the work of four, thereby cutting down the initial cost of the line One-half, and all other charges One-half—Insurance, Depreciation, Wages of crew, Interest, cost of food of Passengers and everything else One-half, and shortening time of Transit One-half. ("Hear, hear.")

Now, gentlemen, I am not past convincing that the route via Galway is not the best, but I believe that it

is the best, for the following reasons. Galway lies in the very centre of the western coast of Ireland. Between Galway and Dublin the distance is only 120 miles, which can be traversed in 2-3 hours by properly constructed trains. From Kingstown, near Dublin, to Holyhead, is 60 miles, which can be traversed by properly constructed boats in three hours, and between Holyhead and London, is six hours more, thus making the entire time, between Galway and London 12 hours, and similar time between Galway and all the principal Scotch cities via Larne in Ireland and Stranraer in Scotland.

An objection had been made, gentlemen, that the trouble incident to traffic on such a route as this would kill the route. Well, I don't think it would. My idea is, and I have talked about it a good deal to men who ought to know something about it, that a proper train service running across Ireland would meet the steamers at Galway, take the mails and passengers across to Kingstown, which is the port for England, and to Lorne which is the port for Scotland and which is only 31 miles from Scotland. On coming to Kingstown, which is the port of Dublin, properly constructed ferry steamers would take on board the trains and passengers, as well as the freight, without the necessity of the passengers being disturbed from their seats in the cars and land them in Holyhead where the train would be divided, the Manchester portion going to Manchester, the Liverpool portion going to Liverpool, the Birmingham portion going to Birmingham, and the London portion going to London, and same to Scotland, so effecting immense saving in trouble and discomfort.

Another objection has been made to this service, and that is, will it pay? That question was asked me only yesterday by my Irish friends.

Now, gentlemen, it is difficult to say how well it will pay until the thing comes into actual experience, but I believe it will pay. (Hear, hear). I might say here that I don't think the question of pay, however, is the greatest question that should come up before us in this matter. The great question, I think, is what is best for the Empire, Canada and Ireland. I am a native of Ireland and feel proud to be also a native of the British Empire, which I hope always to see at the head of the Anglo-Saxon race throughout the world. (Applause).

I will deal first of all with the question: Will it pay? Well, I have had a good deal of experience in steamship matters. My firm manages in Canada four or five lines of steamers between Montreal and the port of Glasgow, the port of Cardiff, the port of London, the ports of Newcastle, Leith and Aberdeen, and we have large dealings with all those ports, and with the Western States, and with Western Canada, and know something about what the chances are for trade in that direction. Well, gentlemen, my experience is this: that every day of our lives sees a larger demand between Canada and Great Britain for just such things as will make Canada a great country and which require a fast line of steamers—the very fastest we can get to do the work. I refer to fruit and perishable goods, and high class goods of all descriptions. These goods, as a rule, require to be handled promptly and quickly and to be delivered in first class condition, and I may say that above all, speed is the great requisite, and the shippers of these goods are willing to pay extra prices, and extra rates for quick and good shipment. This last month, gentlemen, we have been besieged in our office by applications for space, not only from Canada for fruit, but also from California, which is finding a greater and greater market every year in Great Britain. We cannot accommodate to-day all the fruit offered us from California. The other Canadian goods of course, are bacon, hams, butter and

cheese, all of which I believe would take advantage very frequently of this fast line.

Then the question comes up: Would such a fast line be able to take freight? I say, yes. The fast lines now running from New York—the *Cannard* and *White Star* passenger boats—carry very little freight. Why? Because of the immense quantity of coal which they are obliged to carry in their bunkers. The very fast boats I believe burn between six and seven hundred tons per day, and at times more; and to provide against contingencies they have to take a larger supply of coal in their bunkers than is required for the actual time of passage. The actual time of passage is only seven days, but they have to carry about ten days supply of coal in their bunkers, thereby shutting out almost entirely all freight from those steamers. Now, these steamers running between *Galway* and *Halifax* would not require to carry more than four or five days' supply of coal, and in consequence, they would have that much more cargo space in each boat amounting to four or five thousand tons each way.

That space, gentlemen, would, I think, command a freight of probably 25 or it might be 30 shillings a ton. In other words on that question of profits on freight, the *Halifax-Galway* line would show earnings of £12,000 or £13,000 every round trip. This, I think, gentlemen, answers the question regarding the freight part of the business, and I will only just add this, that in running that line from *Halifax* to *Galway*, you would develop in an especial manner our great Maritime Provinces of *Nova Scotia* and *New Brunswick*. I suppose not many of you, gentlemen, have been through these provinces, but I hope many of the delegates from *England* will go through them before they go back. And I say this about them, that a country more suitable for dairying purposes, for the growth of fruit, for the manufacture of butter and cheese, does not lie to-day under God's heaven. That section of country is as big as the whole of *Great Britain*, and I think in the near future, what with fish and other articles, it would almost supply sufficient freight for a bi-weekly line of steamers, independent of the rest of *Canada* and the *United States*. (Applause.)

It is wonderful how business grows when facilities are given to it. (Hear, hear). We all know what was the opinion held in *Canada* when the *Pacific Railway Company* first was talked about. It was the feeling in *Canada* that the road would never pay for the grease for its wheels. And now, gentlemen, it is one of the best paying roads in the world. A certain portion of that road, acquired later by the *Canadian Pacific Railway*, between *Quebec* and *Montreal*, and called then the *North Shore Road*, is now a part of the great *Canadian Pacific* system. So poor were the prospects of that road supposed to be, running as it does parallel with the *St. Lawrence River*, and having to compete with boat competition that the road was actually hawked about *Canada*—I have no positive proof, but I understand that the *Grand Trunk Railway Company* could have acquired it for a very small sum of money; however, it finally passed into the hands of the *Canadian Pacific*. And then, gentlemen, although not entirely suitable, having been built to gratify political friends in a very round-about way, that road is one of the best paying parts of the *Canadian Pacific Railway*.

Again, I believe that the future of the *New Grand Trunk Pacific Railway*—the *Northern Pacific* and the increases that are being made to the *Canadian Pacific Railway* require the *Canadian Government* to give a service between *England* and *Canada* far superior to anything that we have ever had in the past. That is what we must do if we want *Canada* to grow, which is, I hope, the aspiration of every *Canadian*. I

believe that this will best be served by our bringing forcibly before the Governments of *England* and of *Canada*, the necessity for the promotion of a line that will fill the wants of *Canada* and the wants of *Great Britain*, because, gentlemen, I think that *Great Britain's* future, the future of the whole *British Empire*, is bound up with *Canada*. If you look at the map of *America* you will see that *America* is situated midway between the great workshops of *England*, the continent of *Europe*, and the markets of *China*, *Japan* and *Asiatic Russia*. The opening of these great markets was alluded to by a gentleman from *England*, I think it was *Mr. Walton*, in his speech, and I think with him these markets are the great future trade prize of the world, a prize which our competitor, the *United States*, is raising heaven and earth to take from us and to monopolize. That I think is distinctly shown by late actions on the part of the *United States*. I think all of us who have read the *United States* papers, know how sore the people of the *United States* and their Government feel, at seeing the great ocean trade of the *United States* going and coming by *British* tonnage. Now, gentlemen, I have not a word to say against the *United States*—not one word, but if *Great Britain* is going to keep the sovereignty of the world, she has to develop *Canada* and send out to this great country her surplus population, and her surplus capital, which in the past has floated into the *United States*, to the loss of *Canada*. We have lost nineteen-twentieths of *British* capital in the past, and *Britain* has allowed the *United States* to dominate over us, and I fear that one day they will dominate over *Great Britain* and the *Empire*. (Cries of no, no). I hope to God they never will, but gentlemen, look at this aspect of the question. The *United States* have eighty millions of people, and in fifty or sixty years from now, they will have probably two hundred millions of people. (Cries of no, no). As I am informed by the chairman that my time is up I thank you for your attention.

*Mr. J. E. De Wolf* (President *Halifax Board of Trade*): Your Lordship, and gentlemen: An unexpected duty has fallen upon me this morning, that of seconding this resolution, moved so ably by *Mr. Reford* of *Montreal*. *Mr. Black* of *Halifax*, was to have spoken on this, and this morning he came here and was told that this question would not be brought up until this afternoon, and he then left the building. My remarks will, therefore, be very brief. I will simply second the resolution moved by *Mr. Reford*, and will ask your attention to introduce an additional resolution, or perhaps I should call it an amendment, or perhaps rather a supplementary resolution which has been handed to me by the delegates of the *Sydney Board of Trade*. I would ask this resolution to be added to our list, inasmuch as it arrived from *Sydney* too late to be printed with the rest. It is almost identically the same as the resolution of the *Halifax Board of Trade* which was introduced by *Mr. Reford*, and which reads as follows:

Resolved: "That it is in the interest of the Empire that direct mail services be maintained between the *United Kingdom* and the colonies, so that *British* mails may, as far as possible, be carried in *British* ships, direct between *British* ports. Further resolved, that in pursuance of this policy the *British* and *Canadian Governments* be asked to contribute adequate subsidies towards the inauguration and maintenance of a first-class mail service between *Canada* and the *United Kingdom*, so that our *Trans-Atlantic* mails may no longer be carried via foreign ports, as the bulk of them are at present."

That is the resolution which has already been moved by *Mr. Reford*. That proposed by the *Sydney Board of Trade* as you will see is very similar. I do not know whether or not it will be acceptable to the *Con-*

gress, but I have promised my friends from Sydney to introduce it. It is as follows:—

"That in all Government contracts, whether in the case of the Colonial or Imperial Governments, it is desirable that as far as practicable the subsidized lines of mail services shall be to or through British or Colonial ports, and territories, with a view to establish inter-British highways, facilitate mutual intercourse, and promote travel and trade within the Empire."

I do not think personally, that there is any objection to this, and I think it is very similar to the resolution that has already been introduced on the same subject by the other Board.

I have only to say in support of Mr. Reford's resolution, that I thank him for so ably advocating the port of Halifax, which I represent to-day. We feel that our claims upon the Empire are great. We have a harbour there which is open all the year round, large enough to accommodate the fleets of the world, with all modern appliances for the despatch of business, and with the natural desire that we have to see, in the general advancement of all Canada, the eastern part receive its share from such benefits as may accrue from increased trade with the Mother Country. It seems an anomaly to us to see the paternal Government in the Motherland subsidizing to such an enormous extent as it has a fast mail service to a foreign port. I refer to the subsidy granted last year to the Cunard Line to New York. Taking that as an indication of the desire of the Motherland to benefit a British steamship company, surely the resolution introduced by the Halifax Board of Trade is worthy of consideration by the Home Government, namely, that the Imperial Government should co-operate with the Canadian Government in the establishment of a fast line, and that any benefits that may accrue to the United States by its fast steamship connection with Europe may, to a minimized extent, apply to Canada. The subject is one that we discussed last year at the meeting of Dominion Boards of Trade in Toronto. We have had it discussed year after year but with little result. I hope that in a Congress like this any resolution passed on this subject may carry greater weight than in the past, that practical results may follow any resolution we adopt, and that in the near future we may see a fast service between Canada and the Motherland equal to any now crossing the Atlantic. Surely the time has come when Canada can say that the best steamship service is none too good for us. (Hear, hear). I apologize for taking so long and thank you for your consideration. I know Mr. Black, of our Board of Trade, had intended to have spoken on this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: General Laurie will now address us.

GENERAL LAURIE: My Lord, I had been asked by the London Chamber of Commerce to move the resolution which stands on the paper in their name in connection with this proposal. I need hardly say that I was not in a position to go into details such as Mr. Reford has so kindly furnished to the Congress. He is thoroughly capable of speaking on the commercial aspect of this matter. But in any case the answer that would be made to Mr. Reford's own statements is: If there is so much business to be done why do not the commercial men themselves put on a line of steamers? (Hear, hear). That is naturally the question that arises when we are told there would be a great business over a fast line. Mr. DeWolf has this morning shown us how we have been brought face to face with what the Mother Country has done. I hold in my hand the agreement made, which I only received half an hour before I left England. I wish the Congress had been held a month earlier. The agreement is that two and half million pounds sterling should be advanced by the Mother Country to build steamers to run to a foreign port—no matter how friendly it is

you cannot call New York anything but a foreign port—and not only that we should pay these two and a half millions but that we should pay a large increase of subsidy for carrying the mails. Does not that show that it is necessary to subsidize fast steamers? (Hear, hear). If it is justifiable to subsidize steamers running to a foreign port, it is surely justifiable to ask for a subsidy for steamers to our own ports. I think that is sufficient answer for those who say "let every tub stand on its own bottom; if there is business for fast steamers let commercial men put them on; if not why should we subsidize them?" I think that we, as patriots and business men—we are both—can go to the British Government and say: "what you did to bring into closer communication London and New York we can fairly expect you to do to bring into closer communication the Motherland and her largest colony." I think it is cruel to build up trade with a foreign port, no matter how friendly, and that nothing should be done for our own ports. I am often asked what I really am, whether I am an old countryman or a Canadian. My answer is that I belong to the British Empire. Our interests are the same all through, and we do not want to suggest anything that would be a detriment to any part of it. We do this to benefit the whole Empire. Look at what the Canadian Pacific is doing on the Pacific. We are putting on and pressing for improved service between our ports on the Pacific and Australia, between our ports on the Pacific and China and Japan. Therefore, in asking for this we are not merely asking for a subsidy to bring Canada and England closer together, but for something which will bring the whole Empire closer together. (Hear, hear). I think a resolution from this Congress that there are reasons why this subsidy should be granted would have great weight. Mr. DeWolf said that at the meeting of Chambers of Commerce in Toronto last year, there was such a resolution, a Canadian expression of opinion. This is an Imperial expression of opinion if it comes from you gentlemen. (Hear, hear). If you, from the Mother Country and the outlying portions of the Empire thrust this on the Imperial Government, I think sooner or later the Government will have to come to your terms. I think you said just now, Lord Brassey, that the man who would express such an opinion in regard to the mail service as was mentioned would be an idiot. I will tell you what the British Post Office did. I asked for a return of the mails sent by Mowle as a supplement to the North American mail question. The answer I got was that there was no North American mail sent by Mowle. Now any of you gentlemen who have come out to Canada by that route have seen, as I have seen, the mails coming on board there. When I pressed the point again and said that I had seen the mails going on board at Mowle, the answer was "Oh, those are Canadian mails, not North American mails." (Laughter). I lamented his ignorance of geography. I should have liked to say more; I thought a lot, but I did not like to put it on record. We are side-tracked in the matter of mail service. There is no question about it. I do not blame the commercial community. You in the west mark your letters "via New York," because you want them to reach their destination promptly and not in ten or eleven knot steamers. That is another reason why we wish you western men to help us. It is not patriotic to say that we get our fast service through New York. We want it through a Canadian port, and those gentlemen from the Atlantic coast have a right to say to you "we are part of Canada and desire the advantage of Canada as a whole."

Western men must sink any idea of a special advantage for themselves and must obtain the advantage



by uniting with their eastern brothers. That is from the Canadian point of view. I have spoken also from the British point of view. I hope that you will carry this resolution in such shape that it may go home to the Government of the Mother Country and that they may see that business men are in accord and feel justified in asking that contributions or public assistance may be given to establish better communication between the Mother Country and her greatest colony. I think that it is wiser that we should not at present name the port. I have my idea of the two ports, the port at each end, but I am not going to press that matter, I am not even going to mention it now. We can find out that port later. What we have to do is to establish the principle first. I heartily support the resolution, sir, which is on the paper. (Applause.)

Mr. ANGLER (London Chamber of Shipping): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I think you have all been too quiet on this question. I maintain that it is at the very root, it is the very foundation of any question of fiscal reform. To Great Britain the predominance of her mercantile marine is the very breath of life. Her whole commerce depends upon it and she must for her very existence as an empire maintain that predominance. These resolutions, every one of them, are such as no true Briton who understands the commerce of Britain and her very existence can fail to give a most enthusiastic support to them. It is not a consideration of policy. It is a very first necessity to see that we adopt every one of these resolutions. Gentlemen, I give you three axioms which Britain should never forget, for her whole commerce is based upon them. The first axiom is, that facility of communication and transport are the fundamental basis of all progress, development and prosperity of our nation and empire. Another, the second, is: That the increased and improved means of communication and transport must ever precede and march in the van of population and development of all countries and especially so in new countries. Another axiom which requires constant remembering is: That over supply of facility of communication and transport can only subsist for a brief period; the demand for these facilities must always very soon overleap the supply. Gentlemen, these points want remembering and it is our inland inhabitants who most want their memories refreshed on these points. Because you do not see how the goods are transported, do not forget that it is of the first necessity to see that means of transport are ever provided and ever maintained. Now, I would like you to look around and only think what our competitors, our hostile competitors are doing in this line. You ought to have been enlightened on the bounties provided by our hostile competitors to their marine. You find that France, Italy, Russia, and others give direct and enormous bounties, and quite as large. Is not it, therefore, a necessity for Britain to take a leaf out of their book? Gentlemen, we know our character as Britons. We know that perhaps we have a certain amount of sturdiness and backbone, but it is an absurd boast for us ever to dream that with such handicaps as foreigners give to their shipping, we can cherish the hope of maintaining that predominance in our shipping which is the very vital necessity of the existence of the Empire. Gentlemen, our own Royal Commission that was appointed to consider the question gave no qualified or uncertain verdict. They distinctly and strongly recommended bounties for the main arteries of our mail service and communication. We have, therefore, the best authority for passing these resolutions. They are endorsed by men who have every day the widest experience on the question, the men who formed that Royal Commission. Gentlemen, I would first of all appeal to you who are travellers or

globe trotters, and I am certain you will agree with me, that once we get the Government support we then should turn around and justify upon what would be our due from those who receive these subsidies. (Applause.)

Now, I maintain most distinctly that the travelling public of the present day is by no means properly served. Our companies are behind hand. When we consider a passenger going over a ten days' journey and stopping in a hotel on shore, and being shown into a small room, with four others to share it, I can imagine what sort of language would be used by the man or lady so treated. The comparison is not absurd; it is not unreasonable. With our present facilities, the size of our ships and the perfection of our engines, we have the right as the travelling public, to insist upon proper accommodation. (At this moment the time bell rang.) I have got to the middle of my speech and the hit is in my mouth, but they won't give me my head, so I must comply. It is an abrupt ending, but I bow to the ruling.

GENERAL LAURIE: You have two minutes.

Mr. ANGLER (continuing): I can only tell you as a man of forty years' experience in shipping, that this is one of the most necessary resolutions, one of the wisest resolutions, we have on our agenda. I hope every member here present will see to it that not only is the resolution passed, but that he agitates and worries afterwards until the result is attained to which the resolution points.

GENERAL LAURIE: I have next to call on Mr. Beckett, of Dublin.

Mr. ISAAC BECKETT (Dublin Chamber of Commerce): The proposal before the meeting is one of a most ambitious nature. I stand up to endorse the proposal originally brought forward as to the necessity of getting the shortest possible route, which is, in our minds an Irish port. The idea of getting from this great continent of Canada, through Ireland, to the manufacturing towns of England, and to London, in four and a half days is a consummation devoutly to be wished for, and is of tremendous importance in every sense of the word. There is no proposition to be brought forward to-day that would tend to increase much the steadfastness, the business and the loyalty of the two countries more than the short route proposed. If we can possibly reduce the time and expense to one-half of what it is at present, it gives us a small idea of the great magnitude to which the business and prosperity of the two countries can be advanced. We believe though no port should be mentioned—that Galway would be the port to carry the idea to a success. I prefer not to occupy your time, but would merely say we have the right to demand, and should demand, from the Governments every effort on their part, and a subsidy to join the two countries which have been loyal to each other—Canada and England.

GENERAL LAURIE: I will now ask the representative of our great western port, Mr. Lancaster, of Liverpool, to speak.

Mr. CHARLES P. LANCASTER (Liverpool Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): The group of resolutions—

GENERAL LAURIE: I may point out that Mr. Reford moved the resolution of the Montreal Board of Trade, and I think we are bound to speak to that particular resolution; I do not think we can talk on all the resolutions. If we begin wandering through all the resolutions on the paper, we shall never get through.

Mr. LANCASTER: I would suggest for your consideration and for that of the other delegates, that inasmuch as resolutions 33-39, relating to fast steamship service, are almost identically the same, we might save the time of the Congress by inviting the

gentleman appointed to speak to each resolution, to express the opinion he will be able to offer in support of it.

I have been requested by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to move resolution 38, I don't wish to move an amendment, but I rather desire to suggest the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce which indicates the Port of Liverpool as a suitable point of departure and arrival for the proposed fast Canadian line of steamers, and Liverpool the original and largest distributing centre of the United Kingdom for Canadian produce, it appears to be the most suitable for that purpose. I don't desire to insist upon the retention of the name of any port.

The resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce reads:—

"That this Congress is strongly of opinion that a fast steamship service between Canada and the United Kingdom will be of the greatest use in developing trade between the two countries; and, further, that the Port of Liverpool, being the original and largest distributing centre of the United Kingdom for Canadian produce, appears to be the most suitable terminal port of England for such service."

I was very much interested to hear the remarks of Mr. Reford, who proposed the Montreal Board of Trade resolution, a resolution which is absolutely innocent of the mention of the name of any port, but Mr. Reford seemed to be devoted almost entirely to the exploitation of the Irish port of Galway, a port respecting which many hopes and expectations have been indulged in for many years. The warm Celtic nature and enthusiastic hopes of Mr. Reford are shared, we know, by many of his countrymen, and I have not the slightest doubt, but that in the years to come, with the great increase in Trans-Atlantic travel that Galway will in due time receive its deserts and whether it is Galway or Milford Haven—I know that port is near to the heart of our gallant chairman, but with true military modesty and retirement, he had not given you the name, but I give it to you on his behalf. (Applause.)

At present Liverpool appears to hold the field, and I would say that we in Liverpool are quite satisfied that the interests of Liverpool, with its great preponderance of shipping, and the finest docks in the world, can be safely left in the hands of those members of His Majesty's Government, who will have to carefully consider the question of selecting a port, and for that reason, we are not now specially anxious to press the claims of Liverpool in a resolution. But we do most earnestly desire to endorse every word that has been said this morning, both by the gentlemen from Ireland and by the Irish gentlemen from another part of Canada, and by our gallant chairman, General Laurie (applause) and by everybody else who has spoken on behalf of, and in endorsement of a fast steamship service between Canada and the Mother Country, with national assistance from Great Britain. From the obvious needs, the clamorous demand for such an extension of the ties of sympathy and of Empire, to which appropriate and sympathetic references have been made during this Congress, and from the way in which you have adopted the resolutions under this head, whether separately or consolidated into one resolution such as I have suggested, I feel confident of the result and I leave the matter in your hands.

Mr. GEORGE E. DAVIS (Bristol Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I suppose we are all agreed upon the great importance of a fast mail service between England and Canada, and I think if we consider this matter carefully, we will find that it will tend to strengthen the sympathy between the two countries, and we will also find that there is a strongly sympathetic bond on the part of the Government, especially if we have regard to the action which they have

lately taken in securing that certain fast steamers which were coveted by a neighboring country should remain in English hands. I have but one word to say, and that is that the Government should secure, as far as possible, that British mails should be carried to British ports. It has been shown to-day, I think most conclusively, that without endorsing any idea of an Irish port on the other side, that you could have a fast mail service from Halifax on this side of the water, which is an open port all the year round. By having Halifax on this side, you will find that the mails will travel as quick, if not quicker, than to New York, but I think, after the very strong way in which the mover of the resolution put forward the idea that it was possible to have four days' mails if you went to Galway, it is well as practical business men, that we should recognize that there are other considerations than a short sea route, under circumstances where there would be considerable transhipping to get the mails to the distributing point. There is another consideration; mails are important, indeed, but no boats in the world can run for mails alone. Some consideration must be had for passengers and freight to make the scheme financially possible, even if fast steamers are moderately subsidized by the Government. I do not think that any one would for a moment contend that Galway would be anything like a reasonable port of distribution for goods on the other side, neither would it be an easy place for passengers to be landed. I would venture to say, sir, that notwithstanding what Liverpool has said, there is even another alternative port, and that is the port of Bristol. (Applause.) I would like that Bristol would be at least put on record. It is, to say the least, three hours nearer than Liverpool, because you would have a shorter sea voyage and a shorter rail journey at the other end, and you would have also an absolutely straight run from Halifax to Bristol, and the steamer would come in without slackening speed to the slightest degree. Then there is the best channel there of any place that can be mentioned. Now, I do not desire to make a long speech, although much might be said on the merits of Bristol, and its advantages, but I am sure you will at least bear it in mind, as an alternative route to the ones that have been already indicated, and I am sure you will bear with me for having mentioned it, in view of the fact that many other ports have been pointed out.

SEVERAL VOICES: Vote, vote.

The CHAIRMAN (General Laurie): Gentlemen, I think I have explained to you very clearly, that delegates have come from all parts of the Empire to express their views, and it is absurd to say that a certain three or four may be allowed to express their views and then that you shall muzzle the rest. (Applause.) I am just as anxious as anybody here to get through with the business, but it seems to me that men who have come from Australia to express their views, are not to be told "you can take a back seat because three or four others have already spoken."

I am only filling the chair temporarily, but I have here before me a list left me by the Chairman, and I am going to act up to the instruction, and when I come to the end of the list, I shall act according to my own mind, fairly placing myself in your hands. I am sure that the general opinion is that no man who has really anything to say on the subject, ought to be told that he is not to speak.

Mr. JAMES MOORE (Belfast): After the remarks of our gallant chairman, I shall only say two or three words.

I think that this resolution of the Montreal Board of Trade is more comprehensive than the other resolution of London, and I would vote that it be accepted. The Montreal resolution has only refer-

ence to Canada and the other colonies, and I would suggest to Mr. Reford, the mover of the Montreal resolution, that if he interpolated the words "with government assistance" it would cover all the ground, and we might be satisfied with it as a general expression of opinion, that not only would we have fast steamers between Canada and the Mother Country, but that the other colonies would have steamers much faster than any that come to Canada at the present time. In fact, if we had 24 knot or 30 knot steamers we would reduce the ocean voyage to Canadian ports to—what shall we say?—a short sea voyage of about three hours—three days, excuse me.

**A VOICE:** Make it three hours.

**Mr. Moore:** Now, would Mr. Reford add this at line 5, after the word "provision," which would make the resolution read thus:

"The provision, with Government assistance, of fast mail services on the several routes, and the development and control of trade between the Mother Country and her possessions and between the colonies themselves."

I am a North of Ireland man myself, but I think it would be slightly injudicious for us to name special ports, leave it to be fought out elsewhere.

Galway has been mentioned in this connection, but times have changed since Galway was tried and failure occurred. Steamers are now so immense that I am afraid poor Galway will have to look up a bit before we can think of going there. At present, we could increase the steamship speed in a simple manner, and a little Government assistance would do all we require, and I think we might properly leave the subject to the next Congress to arrange for Galway. (Applause).

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I will now ask Mr. Parkes, of Birmingham, to address you.

**Mr. EBENEZER PARKES, M.P.** (of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce): I think, Mr. Chairman, enough has been said on this question, so I will waive my right to say anything more about it.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** There is yet a gentleman to hear. I will call upon Mr. Usher of Dublin.

**Mr. F. J. USHER** (of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce): Mr. President and Gentlemen: I have the pleasure and honor of appearing before you as one of the representatives of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, but I shall not inflict my observations upon you to any great extent, because, any remarks I might make, might in a sense, dissipate your minds from the expressions of Mr. Reford, and those of General Laurie. I must say that I endorse every word these gentlemen have said. I emphatically and absolutely endorse their remarks, and in that respect I shall not say anything further than just merely to refer to the great advantage that this Dominion of Canada and also that Great Britain would derive from a fast line of steamers between the United Kingdom and the Port of Halifax. I have gone into the details of the conditions that exist, and I find that in sending letters from London, or from the English cities, Liverpool included, it occupies ten days in transit to Montreal via New York, that is coming by the Cunard Line. Now, there is another very important consideration, of which you are quite aware, namely, that the English Government have given a subsidy to a fast steamship line to New York amounting to two million five hundred thousand pounds. Very well, I daresay you are well aware of the great combines on this side of the Atlantic, and of course there are a great many corners, and a great many combines carried out here in America. You all know the great combine with which Mr. Morgan is connected—the White Star Line coming from Liverpool—and it takes ten days in bringing letters to Canada. It seems to me that it might

possibly happen that your Canadian letters coming via that line, are liable to a certain amount of censorship before they arrive here. (Voices: No, no). Of course it has been suggested that a fast line of steamers should run between Halifax and some ports of Great Britain. It has been referred to, that the voyage between Galway and Halifax is only four days; that the journey from London to Galway is only twelve hours, and from Halifax to Montreal fifteen hours, so that will leave your letters coming from London to Montreal in British ships in five days and three hours—well, call it five days from London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool right into Montreal. Now, for instance, if you calculate only five days coming direct by British ships, and not by American vessels, that is five days saved, as at present it takes ten days. That means one hundred per cent. of saving. That means economy in very many ways. Just one other observation I have to make, and I am done, and that is with respect to the food supply of the United Kingdom in the emergency of war. You are quite aware that the Chambers of Commerce have endeavored to enquire what were the conditions of the various ports of Great Britain for the purpose of accumulating wheat and other foodstuffs in the event of war. Well, here in Canada you have the granary of the world, capable of great development, and if you bring your food supply, your wheat, and your provisions in British ships you being within such a short distance of the British ports, you maintain at sea the great granary that will supply the country in the case of war. We are now in the hands of the United States to a great extent for our food supply. We get four-fifths of our food supply from the United States, and if it suited the Americans in the event of war, they could lay siege to us by cutting off our food supply, and by that means, without firing a shot, they can strike a vital blow to the power of Great Britain. I have nothing more to say, except that I support the observations of my friend and fellow countryman, Mr. Reford. I am proud to say we both came from Ireland, and I consider that Ireland is no unimportant factor in the Empire. (Applause).

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I think this matter has been very well discussed. I have no further names on my paper, and I have fully determined that no honest discussion shall be shut out. If the gentlemen who wish to speak submit their names in advance, I shall be happy to permit them to address the meeting. Several gentlemen said they would like to have spoken, but that their views have been expressed by other gentlemen, and I think it would be a shame to detain you further.

**Mr. GEORGE H. DOBSON** (North Sydney): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Congress: I do not wish to occupy your time after so much has been said already. I simply wish to draw attention to the Cunard contract with the Imperial Government, a copy of which I hold in my hand. I notice from the contract that the object of the contract is to convey the mails between the United Kingdom, and I presume, North America. The boats run to New York. The particular point I wish to raise is this, that once there was a justification for subsidizing British mail boats to New York or to other foreign American ports, when these boats carried considerable freight and accommodated the English merchants, but to-day, sir, the mail boats are largely express boats, especially the new boats of the North German Lloyd and the Hamburg American line, and the boats to be under this contract just concluded between the British Government and the Cunard Company, are fast express boats, the fastest probably that ever ran on the Atlantic. At first they tried for 25-knot boats, but I see they have come down to 24-knots and



have fixed the lowest limit of speed at 23 1-2 knots. Now, the 23 1-2 knot boats running between the United Kingdom and New York are express boats. They carry little or no freight. They consume between 500 and 600 tons of coal a day, and consequently they require a great deal of tonnage capacity for their coal bunkers, and so they carry practically no cargo for the convenience of the English merchants. The object of these boats I presume will be to deliver the English mails to the North American continent, to the United States cities with the quickest possible despatch, and I think the British Government has lost sight of the advantages of a Canadian port for this purpose when they made the contract to deliver the mails via New York. We have been told here to-day by somebody that boats can deliver the mails in four days and a half. Taking the speed at 24 knots, the English mails can be delivered in American cities inside of four days via Canada. It must be remembered that we are 800 miles nearer the United Kingdom than New York, and considering the increased speed that has been obtained now on the railway systems, and considering the detentions sometimes for different reasons, the mail averages between London and Washington should be made at least 24 hours quicker via a Canadian port than via New York. Now, Mr. Chairman, in view of this fact, I think the delegates here from England particularly are interested, who are to some extent paying the subsidy toward this line, and who are interested in the quick despatch of their mails between the United Kingdom and North American cities should consider the advantages that are offered by Canadian ports for the quick despatch of English mails. I hope, sir, it is not too late yet for the British Government to amend that contract. As these boats will not carry freight, as they are subsidized for the purpose of the quickest despatch of mails, then the object and purpose of the British people and the British Government can be best realized by the boats delivering their mails and passengers at a Canadian port. What is the situation to-day? The United States Commissioners' report on navigation makes a boast that every ship in the North Atlantic with a speed of over fifteen knots naves the American ports. Great Britain for the last 60 years has subsidized boats to run to New York. They have built up to a very large extent the commerce of the United States. They have passed Canada, and the consequence is that our population is small and the United States has been built up into a great power, built up largely by the subsidized lines running from the United Kingdom to American ports. And it is not only the British lines, but also the continental lines have followed the English example. She has led the way, and to-day New York has a daily mail service across the Atlantic by the North German Lloyd, the Hamburg-American, the White Star, the Cunard, the American International Line, and the French Line. All these lines have fast boats, and we have not got a fast boat. We have not got a boat with a higher average speed probably than fourteen knots, running to Canada, taking the average throughout the year, while to New York there are boats running at an average, I think for the whole year 23 1-2 knots, and have made a whole day's run at a speed of 25 knots and something over. Now, Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that England is asking us to contribute to Imperial defence, I think she should remember us, and assist us in Canada—she should do something, instead of throwing the wealth of the United Kingdom, and the surplus population, and the commerce and everything, to the United States. Why, sir, here we have a Canadian Pacific Railway bringing passengers from Asia, and for rapid transit they have to go down to New York, whereas, if the

English boats came to Canadian ports, we would have an all-British route right from London to Hong-Kong. And then what would it mean in case of trouble with the United States if we had a great highway from London all through British territory to Hong Kong? It would mean everything. Soon our North-West would be filled up; travellers going through this country would see the advantage and possibilities of the country, they would advertise Canadian trade, and Canada would become worthy of helping England and the Empire. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call on Mr. Robertson, of St. John.

MR. GEORGE ROBERTSON, M.P.P. (St. John, N.B.): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: This question has been so thoroughly and so well threshed out at the present time, and so much talked of in the past, that it is needless for me to take up the valuable time of this great Congress to discuss it, but recognizing that Montreal has spoken, that Quebec has spoken, that Liverpool has spoken and that Halifax and North Sydney have spoken, I thought I would like to have the opportunity of just saying to you gentlemen that there is a port called St. John.

A VOICE: Where is it?

MR. ROBERTSON (continuing): A port called St. John, which is the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the Intercolonial Railway connection, and where, I hope, in a short time, we will have another line of railway, and within the next ten years, additional lines across the continent, all touching at the port of St. John. Now, St. John takes this position, that as far as the ports are concerned, we are willing and glad to simply adopt the principle that it is most desirable to have a fast Atlantic service between Canada and Great Britain. That service, it is generally understood, will come to Quebec in summer, and the people of the Province of Nova Scotia and the city of Halifax understand it is going to Halifax in the winter. But I would say this, I do not think it is desirable for us to discuss the relative values of the ports. (Hear, hear.) I think it is a mistake. I want to approach this on the broadest national and Imperial lines, and I hope the British Government, after having subsidized so largely the fast Cunard line, will feel that there are a hundred reasons of greater importance why they should subsidize, in connection with the Canadian Government, a fast line to the Dominion of Canada. (Hear, hear.) Why, Mr. Chairman, do you realize the fact that the first promoter of the Atlantic passenger service was a New Brunswicker who went to Nova Scotia afterwards, I mean the late Samuel Cunard, who thought the New York of those days offered great advantages as a port. If we would think for a minute of the little provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, called the Maritime Provinces, which in those days had the great unknown lands of Ontario and Quebec behind them—unknown to us, comparatively speaking—and now with all the great nations of the world about us, we are plodding across the Atlantic with thirteen-knot boats when it is possible to have thirty-knot boats. I will not say more; I trust the voice of the Congress will show the time has come when the interests of the Empire demand that there shall be a fast line between the Mother Country and the great Dominion of Canada. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN (General Laurie): I have again exhausted my list of speakers, and I will put the resolution which practically comes as a solution of the problem of all the resolutions on the fast Atlantic service.

MR. R. H. DILLON (St. Mary's, Ontario, Board of Trade): Did Mr. Reford accept the amendment put forward by Mr. Moore, "with Government assistance"?



**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Reford and Mr. Moore have consulted, and they have decided not to make any change in the resolution as it stands, because that conveys that Government assistance must necessarily be given to the project. I ask you now, gentlemen, if it is your will that this resolution be adopted.

The resolution was declared carried unanimously

#### THE METRIC SYSTEM.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** We have next on the agenda to be dealt with the resolutions relating to the metric system. I would ask those gentlemen representing the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, the Vancouver Board of Trade, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce, the Quebec Board of Trade, the Chambre de Commerce du district de Montreal, and the Halifax Board of Trade, to retire now to Committee Room No. 2, with a view of deciding their action in the meeting when this matter is brought forward.

#### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY, HER COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

The discussion on the preferential trade resolutions was then resumed.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Cockshutt will now report the proceedings of the committee:—

**MR. W. F. COCKSHUTT** (Toronto, Ontario), My Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: I have to say to you that we have wasted considerable time, and I foresaw this in the first place. We have been unable to arrive at a decision to make a single word of change in the resolution as presented this morning. (Hear, hear). Our delegates, while not objecting to some of the words, wish the debate to proceed so that they may ascertain the meaning of the words. They fear these words may have a hidden meaning and they want Sir William Holland to explain them. If afterwards they are found to be compatible with a straight, clean-cut resolution they may be introduced, but till there is good cause shown for the insertion of the words, the committee wish the resolution to remain as it is.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Gentlemen: Good Scripture says that in a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom, and it is a maxim in the Old Country that the House of Commons is wiser than any one man in it. The committee has now come to the larger arena, and we are to have what I hope will be an able and interesting discussion. I venture the hope that the effect of these speeches may be to clear the air, and that we may come to an amicable agreement.

**SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND:** My Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: Although the result of the report of this committee is not, as you have heard, favorable to the acceptance of the words that I suggested, yet I am hopeful that after you have heard more of the debate, any difficulties you may at present feel in regard to the acceptance of these words may conceivably be removed. I assure you, gentlemen, from the bottom of my heart, that in introducing these words there is no *arrière pensée* at the back of my mind. (Hear, hear). I merely want, gentlemen, by the introduction of these words, to make it sure that the benefits to accrue from any change of fiscal policy, if there is to be a change, should really be mutual, and that the mutuality of these benefits shall be a condition precedent before embarking on any new policy. This amendment which I venture now respectfully to move merely puts in black and white that sentiment, a sentiment which, I think, finds much acceptance at the hands of this great meeting. (Hear, hear).

I have to confess that I was much touched by the speeches of those who spoke yesterday afternoon in

support of this resolution. These speeches were full of sympathy and cordial consideration for the difficulties which arise in the Old Country. Such a speech, if I may select one, as that of Senator Drummond went to the hearts of many of us. I said to myself when I heard it, that such men compose the very salt of the British Empire. (Applause). Turning to the remarks of my friend Mr. Cockshutt, I gather that in his opinion the affection of the colonies for the Mother Country is proportionate to the trade benefits they receive. (Cries of "no"). Well that is what they say (Cries of no, no). Well, I don't seem to be very successful in apprehending the meaning. May I read the resolution and see what it says:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the bonds of the British Empire would be materially strengthened and the union of the various parts of His Majesty's Dominions greatly consolidated by the adoption of a commercial policy, based upon the principle of mutual benefit."

That is the first part of the resolution, and I gather that if the benefits are not mutual, in your opinion the opposite would be the result, and the bonds of union instead of being increased would be diminished. But if Mr. Cockshutt himself did not express that view, at any rate I have heard some express the view that larger benefits would lead to more affection. If that is correct, it is obvious that since we take twice as much from you or more than twice as much from you as you take from us, we must love the colonies twice as much as the colonies love us. I don't know if you ever heard the story of the nurse who was applying for a position. The lady to whom the application was made, after the salary had been agreed upon at twelve pounds a year, said: "But you know I shall want you to love the children." "Oh, well, responded the nurse," if you want me to love the children it will be two pounds a year extra." (Laughter). I don't think you will attach much importance to mercenary affection of that sort.

I wonder if I am more correct in interpreting Mr. Cockshutt's view when I say that in my opinion, he said that most of the efforts to increase the trade either between Canada and Great Britain, or between Great Britain and Canada, had been made on the side of Canada rather than of the Mother Country. But that hardly tallies with the figures which have been distributed broadcast on the table of this hall. Those figures show that the imports of Canada from Great Britain which were seventy-seven million dollars thirty years ago, were only sixty-four million dollars last year. On the other hand the exports of Canada to the Mother Country have been increasing by leaps and bounds. In 1873, they were thirty-five million dollars, while last year they had advanced to one hundred and thirty-five million dollars. We are glad to have that increase. We want to have as great an increase of trade between the Mother Country and Canada as we possibly can. But I am sure some of you will appreciate the difficulties in the way of carrying out the views advocated in the colonies. In the first place you will agree with me that the fiscal policy here is more or less a policy of protection. Coming from the Mother Country I do not utter a syllable of objection to that. You have the absolute and indefeasible right to adopt the policy that suits you best. But having protection in your own market, what these proposals mean is the advocacy also of protection for you in the market of the Mother Country. When I tell you that in that market we do not give the British food producers one atom of protection, I think you will agree that we are not treating the Canadian farmer or producer very unfairly in putting him on the same footing as the British farmer or food producer. Since this Congress has opened, I notice that the keynote of its proceedings has been a desire to promote

harmony and good feeling. So successful has it been that every trace of discord has been excluded to the credit of the heads as well as the hearts of those present. (Hear, hear). So that as a result, the memory of this Congress will be a happy and inspiring one. Never before—if you will allow me to say so, coming as I do, direct from the Mother Country—never before had the colonies so warm a place in the heart of the Mother Country as now. (Applause). Nor is the reason far to seek. It has not been the giving of a Preferential tariff that has contributed to it, though I should be the last man to underrate the value of the preference. But, gentlemen, it was because from Canada and other parts of the Empire you stood by the Mother Country in her hour of distress, and withheld not your sons when the old flag seemed to be in danger. (Applause). By the side of such splendid loyalty and devotion every preference in my opinion which the wit of man can devise, seems sordid and mean and absolutely unworthy of consideration. Gentlemen, talk about the unity of the Empire. I for one, would wish for no greater unity than was displayed to an astonished world during the South African war. (Applause). All the tariff legislation, all the mutual preference you may have, will not in my judgment have the effect of increasing that unity or drawing the bonds of Empire closer together in anything like the same degree.

This resolution which is now before the Congress, speaks of an enquiry, of a special commission to enquire into this knotty and difficult question. Yes, I also am in favor of an enquiry, but let it not be a Cabinet enquiry, with closed doors. Let it be an enquiry open to the public, so that they may have opportunity of seeing the character of the witnesses who appear before the tribunal, of hearing the kind of evidence that they give, and of forming their own conclusions as to the right decision to draw from hearing all the case. That is of the first importance. If the investigation is conducted behind closed doors, and if nothing but the conclusions are advertised to the public, they cannot be expected to be convinced without greater information being forthcoming as to the method by which the conclusions were reached. I am sorry, coming direct as I do from the British House of Commons, I am sorry that the mind of that great legislative assembly has been misled on this great question. The House of Lords has had many opportunities to discuss these great fiscal proposals, whereas the House of Commons has had no opportunity to discuss them adequately. If a member of Parliament has shown an inclination to do anything in that direction, he has been forthwith pounced down upon by the Speaker and has been ruled out of order and has had to subside. (Laughter.)

Well, some of us in the House of Commons think if light is wanted, it would have been one of the ways of elucidating the question, to allow British members of the House of Commons to express their views and state their experience on so momentous a problem. Here, to-day, I know there are some enthusiastic believers in Preferential tariffs, but on the other hand there are some who may believe in them as a beautiful theory, but who also believe that in practice it will pass the wit of man to devise a scheme which won't inflict far more harm than good, so diverse are the interests to which the scheme would have to be applied. (Applause). This resolution is a very striking one. It is a resolution brim full of optimism from the first line to the last. It is an improvement on the old saying, which went somewhat in this wise: "Heads, I win; tails, you lose." That was a very common issue which used to be put to us in boyhood days. But this is an improvement because it suggests, heads we both win, and tails neither

of us lose. It commends a commercial policy which shall ensure mutual benefits and specific advantage on both sides. If I state some of the difficulties which have perplexed many of us on the other side of the water I am sure you will listen attentively to them, because you know, level-headed business men as you are, that difficulties are not overcome by ignoring them. If we reason together, each sympathize with the views of the other, very likely some solution may be arrived at. (Hear, hear).

I wonder whether we are all agreed on this, that every country ought to adopt that fiscal policy which is best suited to its needs. (Hear, hear.) I wonder if we are all agreed further, that a policy which may answer very well for one country in one set of circumstances, may answer very badly for another country in another set of circumstances. (Hear, hear). I wonder also if we are agreed that to attempt to bind in a cast-iron system different parts of the Empire, some of them having agricultural interests, others manufacturing interests, to attempt to so bind those different interests in a cast-iron system would be a piece of fiscal folly, which would sooner or later lead to disaster. Canada is, and must be, the best judge of what is in the true interests of Canada. It is one of the glories of our Empire that a free hand is given to our self-governing colonies to carry out what they judge to be in their own true interest. What we concede to Canada and the rest of the self-governing colonies, you will frankly concede to the Mother Country, which adopts the fiscal system it adjudges to be best adapted to its needs. There must be no forcing of each other's hand; each must be convinced, honestly and deliberately, that the step is a wise one. Unless that state of mind has been reached, a revulsion of feeling would ensue, and the last state of that colony or country would be worse than the first.

Are we agreed that a preference may be given by a protectionist country that has a tariff wall already in existence, and yet it may be a very, very difficult matter for a free trade country to give a preference, because in the one case, where the tariff wall exists, you can easily knock a bit off the coping, and admit somebody over the wall. But in a free trade country you cannot knock anything off the coping without first of all erecting a wall, which means a fiscal revolution. I stated that I was not one to undervalue for a moment the Canadian preference given a few years ago, and augmented, until it is now 33.1-3 per cent. But, if we in the Old Country cannot give to you in return a similar preference, there are many ways in which we can reciprocate the good will, of which that preference is an outward and visible sign. The Chairman, at the opening of the Congress, mentioned one of the ways, by sending our population, not the scum but the cream, to come here and people these vast acres of yours. Another way was in being very lenient as to any suggestions as to colonial contributions towards Imperial defence. In these ways we can show we have a cordial feeling towards our colonies, and are animated by the best of good will towards them.

Since arriving in Canada, I have heard it stated that the fiscal relations between the Mother Country and the colonies ought to be a matter of bargain. That word "bargain." ("Hear, hear"). The essence of a bargain is, as we all know, who are in business, to give as little, on the one hand, and get as much as we can in return, on the other. But that is not the spirit in which a mother treats her daughters. That is not the spirit which promotes cordial family life and family happiness. ("Hear, hear"). That, I think, is made of far too base a metal to enter into these considerations, and sentiment is an infinitely more powerful factor. In driving a bargain, some natures would have advantage over other natures.

There is the Scotch variety, what nation could hope to stand up in competition with a Scotchman. ("Hear, hear" and laughter). Some one told me the other day that a French-Canadian could take points out of him. (Renewed laughter). In one of the papers the other day, was a picture of an old Scotchman in conversation with his little grandson. He was anxious to know if the child had begun to learn arithmetic. Yes, he had. "Well, little Donald, tell me what twice two are." Donald said "Twice two are six." "That's wrong, try again." "Twice two are six." "No, twice two are four." "Yes, I knew that, but I thought I would say six, because I knew you would want to beat me down a bit." (Loud laughter). Well, I say we don't want to have any beating down between the Mother Country and the colonies. Now, one of our difficulties in the Old Country is, that an effective tax on food—and a tax on food always, of course interests us all in regard to this question—an effective tax on food would inevitably make food dearer. Some say it would not have any effect of the kind, but of course there are two sides to this problem. In Germany for instance, there is a duty on our own corn and wheat going into Germany of 7s. 7½d., the price is 35s. 9d., whereas the price on the same day in the Mother Country was only 28s. 1d. If you add 7s. 7½d. to 28s. 1d., why, you are not far off the current price of the corn marked, 35s. 9d. Take the case of France, where there is a duty of 12s. 2½d., where the current price of wheat was on a certain day 38s., you will find also that the price is very much higher, and it is very much higher because the duty is very much higher. Or take the case of Italy where the duty is 13s. 1d., and where the current price for a certain day was 44s. 2d. From those instances, which were mentioned in reply to a question in the House of Commons, and which, therefore, carried with it the highest possible authority, I say, from those instances you will be able to judge the higher the duty the higher the price of the commodity in the country to which that commodity is sent. (Applause). If we admit that an effective duty must make food dearer and if the food is dearer, what does it mean? Gentlemen, you don't need to be told what that means. It means that some of the very poor will go hungry after the imposition of that duty (cries of "no, no," and applause) and if those who are thus sent hungry are told that their hunger is occasioned because of a Preferential tariff, don't you see, gentlemen, that it will leave a very unpleasant taste in their mouths. (Hear, hear).

Some say that the wages will be increased, that they will be raised, if food becomes dearer. Well, if they be raised, of course the person who has the increase in his wages will be indemnified, but there are places where there are fixed scales of wages, and they will not be raised. They will suffer. But on the contrary, if the wages be raised, what is the result? The cost of production naturally in the country will be increased, and the foreign competitor will oust us from where we at present hold sway. (Hear, hear). Another difficulty is, that we very much fear that we shall not be able to escape from a tax on raw material if we have a tax on food, that is, that we cannot escape from it if we are to be just to the other parts of the Empire—just to Australia, and just to New Zealand, and I tell you, gentlemen, if we are not just to New Zealand, we shall have a hot time of it in the Old Country at the hands of Mr. Seddon. Besides being just to Australia and just to New Zealand, it especially behooves us that we shall be just to India (applause) where much of our raw material is grown. I think sometimes, that if possible, our obligation to deal justly with India is greater, because while other countries have made themselves heard she has been dumb, and we of the Mother Country would be un-

worthy of our high distinction and destiny as controllers of a great empire if we did not hold the balance of justice absolutely fairly between the different parts of our great empire. (Applause).

Another of our great difficulties in the Old Country is, that directly we begin to differentiate against foreign nations, we lose the only preference which we at present enjoy outside Canada, namely, the most favored nation clause, and it is quite on the cards that tariff wars may ensue—the very suggestion makes us in the Old Country well nigh shudder.

A VOICE: Shudder for what?

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: Fancy if you can anyone bringing forward proposals that might have the result of leading to a tariff war between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Do you think at the present stage of public opinion in the Old Country that any such proposal would stand a shadow of a chance of acceptance? No. The good feeling between the Old Country and the United States is so strong, and I believe is destined to be so permanent, that any such suggestion would be scouted at the hands of both nations.

You, gentlemen, from other parts of the Empire, think of it. In a little island yonder, where we are situated, we are very vulnerable. We have not the wealth of natural resources that you have here in Canada. We should like to have been a great agricultural nation, but nature put her veto on that. We are restricted in our area. We are restricted in our sunshine, though we are not restricted in our rainfall. (Laughter). So the conditions are not very favorable to our becoming a great agricultural nation, but having been baffled in one direction, Great Britain struck out in another, and our manufactures grew abnormally, and have become abnormally developed. But what does that abnormal development involve? Why, it involves the receipt of large supplies of raw material from every part of the world. We must have both our supplies and our material—our supplies of food stuffs, we must have these at the lowest possible price. Our industries have been developed to such an extent that the home markets are absolutely inadequate to take off all our productions. We are, therefore, dependent upon having the excess of our productions sent to foreign markets. I have said just now that the United Kingdom was in a very vulnerable state, and I ask you to have compassion upon us because of our vulnerability.

A VOICE: We don't want any compassion.

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: But how can we make ourselves less vulnerable? Well, let Canada grow more breadstuffs. Let Australia grow more wool; let the West Indies and West Africa and East India grow more cotton. (Applause). And then we will be more nearly self contained in regard to our supplies than we are at present, and that difficulty of being so very vulnerable would be proportionately diminished.

How would some of our great industries in the Mother Country be affected by some of these fiscal proposals? Take the cotton trade, of which I happen to know something, and which is the biggest of the trades in the Mother Country. (Applause). How would a self-contained Empire, for instance, help the cotton trade? The Empire, believe me, is absolutely inadequate to take off the whole of the surplus production we have. We produce, of cotton manufactures of one kind or another about one hundred million pounds sterling worth a year, say in round figures five hundred millions of dollars worth per annum, and that is a product of which any nation may well be proud. But our home market only takes about thirty per cent. of that production. Our British possessions take about another thirty per cent. of



that production, but forty per cent. of it has to go and find a market in foreign countries. Now, if you adopt any fiscal legislation that makes access to these foreign markets more difficult, you may paralyze an industry which goes to produce forty-two millions worth of cotton goods which at present we send to foreign nations.

I might mention another figure in connection with the cotton trade which, perhaps, will induce you to sympathize with the woes of that great industry if our fiscal system is to be put into the melting pot. There are five hundred thousand workmen directly employed in spinning and weaving, and five hundred thousand workmen employed in subsidiary industries connected with the cotton trade, and that means one million people directly and indirectly and actually employed by the cotton trade, and if you reckon upon them, there may be a couple of millions more absolutely dependent; and that points to the fact that three millions of our population in the United Kingdom have a vital interest in the maintenance of that great industry. No wonder then that the other day the responsible leaders of the cotton trade met and passed this resolution: "That the great cotton industry of the United Kingdom owes its permanence to, and can only be maintained by, the policy of free trade."

Now, we are afraid in the Mother Country that the adoption of preferential tariffs would inflict very large loss on us on the one hand, and if we are injured, then the solidarity of this Empire would come into play because what injures the Mother Country would in the long run injure other parts of this great Empire.

I thank you very much, indeed, gentlemen, for the kind and patient way in which you have listened to me, and I move the amendment of which I gave notice just now. (Prolonged applause.)

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I will now call upon Mr. Crabtree, President of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce.

**MR. T. V. S. ANGLIER:** I rise to a point of order. It seems to me the last speaker has exceeded the time limit.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** It was quite understood yesterday afternoon that great liberality was to be extended in this discussion, and that there was to be reciprocity in the matter in the opening of the discussion on the other side, but it is clear that the act of indulgence cannot be extended indefinitely.

**MR. AMOS CRABTREE** (of the Bradford Chamber): Since we came to these hospitable shores, we have heard a great deal about the impending ruin of the commerce of Great Britain, if Great Britain does not adopt a different commercial policy. It is our duty to tell our Canadian brethren that the great mass of our people did not realize the seriousness of that statement. Our own Bradford Chamber considered these resolutions on preferential tariffs, and it instructed its delegates to oppose every one of them. Therefore, I appeal to our Canadian brethren to exercise a little patience. There is no doubt that some of us agree with the way in which they put it, and their noble aspirations, but we have to consider the great mass of our people at home, and these things cannot be brought about without considerable education. That education takes time, and some of us think that there is a great deal to tell our people, and that the seriousness of any change requires that we should have considerable time to consider these matters.

Our own Chamber instructed its delegates to oppose these resolutions until some comprehensive scheme had been devised and considered in all its bearings, which merely shows how great a material benefit to each component part of the Empire can be secured without serious risk to the welfare of the manufacturing industries of the United Kingdom. (Hear, hear.)

In carrying out these instructions, it seems to me that the addition which the Manchester Chamber wishes to add to the resolution is a sensible and moderate addition. I think it is so sensible and so moderate an addition that our Canadian brethren might receive it and let us pass whatever resolution is passed—let us pass it unanimously—(hear, hear)—because we want to impress our people at home, and we want to impress the Government at home that what we do here is done unanimously, and then it will have some effect. (Applause.)

We are told that we must look at this matter in a broad light. Yes, I quite agree with that, but it is for each section of the trade of the country to state its case, and then it is for our statesmen to evolve a plan. (Hear, hear.)

Now, the second part of the resolution says: "That this Congress urges upon His Majesty's Government the appointment by them of a special commission,"—I endorse the remarks of the mover of this resolution, when he appeals for a royal commission which shall be open to all, so that everybody may see what goes on day by day and may be instructed.

Now, we say there are plenty of reasons why there should be an inquiry. It is not every colony that has done as Canada has done. (Hear, hear.) All our colonies have not been as generous as to "knock a little bit off the coping," as the mover of the resolution has stated. If they would, the results might be the same as in the case of Canada. Since Canada knocked a little bit off the coping, what has been the result to the worsted, and woollen trades of Yorkshire? It has been this. It has been a very considerable result. There has been an increase in every year since they gave us the benefit of the preference. The exports of worsted and woollen goods have increased from eight hundred and seventy-two thousand pounds sterling, in 1898, to one million three hundred and fifty-two thousand pounds in 1902. (Hear, hear.) Now, that is, I think, a sufficient reason for anyone to say that if Old England be given a fair chance there will be considerable benefit arising to both. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution talks about mutual benefit. Now, I say that it is a most difficult matter. It is an easy matter for us to go thus far, but it is when we come to find some means of satisfying our Canadian brethren's requests that the difficulties arise; but all the same, gentlemen, it is our duty to state those difficulties, and in my judgment, the reason why we are bound to consider this matter and not be content to allow it to remain where it is, is that when a great European power threatens to deprive Great Britain of the most favored nation clause, if she encourages her colonies to reduce the tariffs, then we are bound to consider the whole question. (Hear, hear.) We cannot allow any foreign country to threaten us in that matter. (Applause.) I think that there comes in the point when it is absolutely necessary for us to consider this great question in all its bearings. We, all of us, know that it is a complicated and difficult question, but is every other nation to be allowed to do as it likes with Great Britain and are we to sit still and never make a move of any kind? (Hear, hear.) When we find that the tariffs of the United States have reduced our trade and that he have now only a remnant left—(hear, hear)—are we to sit still and do nothing at all and be frightened at whatever the United States might do? I say that we have some self-respect left, and we are not going to allow ourselves to be brow-beaten in that manner. Then what has Germany done? Our own city had once a great trade with the continent of Europe in dress goods, and that trade has been entirely killed by high tariffs. We had and still have a considerable trade in knitting yarns and thin-spun yarns



as they are called; and what is the object of the tariff now going through the Reichstag? It is to kill that branch of our trade; and, therefore, we say it is fair to assume that when they can spin fine yarns they will do the same with that section of our trade.

These are all facts we are bound to bear in mind, and it does seem to me rather a weak position to say that we must not take a single step to protect ourselves, but must allow other nations to do as they like against us. (Hear, hear; prolonged applause).

I have tried to confine myself to the actual state of things. We reciprocate the hospitality of our Canadian friends, and appreciate all their splendid talk, but gentlemen, it has to come down at last to actual figures and real facts. Now, then, I think it is the duty of each section of our trade to state its case, and to try and put it before our Canadian brethren, and before the whole world in the very best possible manner, and that is why I am seconding the Manchester resolution, which also, as brought up before this Congress, implies a royal commission. We are afraid, and we don't want any change, unless it can be proved that benefit can be derived by the different sections of the country. It is our plain duty, when we see the different sections of our trade diminishing, to do something. Why do all the gentlemen come together in London every year, why did they meet in March of this year, and protest against the action of foreign tariffs? Are we to sit still and complain? We have done it for years, and they only laugh at us. Therefore, I say that if we each state our case, it is for the Government to take these different sections up and evolve a system, and have a royal commission, so that every one of us can be instructed in the necessities of the different trades, as the thing goes along.

Now, gentlemen, I say to our Canadian brethren: Be good enough to have a little patience and let our country be educated. We are not all as enthusiastic as you have been. Our people, most of them, have never known any other kind of a trade policy than free trade. There are very few indeed of us who have been brought up under anything but the free trade policy.

A VOICE: So far.

MR. CRABTREE: And, therefore, it is a most momentous thing to change, and we ask our Canadian brethren to be a little patient and bring their minds to look with favor upon this amended resolution which we think would please our people at home. (Loud and prolonged applause).

THE CHAIRMAN: We will now adjourn as usual until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The Congress took recess for luncheon. On resuming:

THE CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Mr. Joseph Walton, member of Parliament.

MR. JOSEPH WALTON, M.P. (Barnsley Chamber): My Lord and gentlemen; I have heard in the last three days more cordial, honest, imperialist sentiments in the city of Montreal than I have ever heard in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in three months. (Applause). I am proud to be associated with a political party who deemed the best way of securing the unity of the British Empire was to give to our self-governing colonies complete autonomy, and included in that autonomy the complete power of settling the particular fiscal system which they conceived to be best adapted to the needs of their particular colony. We in the Mother Country appreciate greatly the rebate of 33½ per cent, which our Canadian brethren have given in order to stimulate and promote the trade of the Mother Country with Canada. I shall endeavor to present as concisely as possible the view of the Mother Country and possibly

of our great Indian dependency in regard to any proposed change in our fiscal system. What is the present position? We have a world-wide Empire with four hundred millions of a population; and out of these four hundred millions, we have to-day, practically three hundred and ninety millions who trade on what is practically a free trade basis. And the question, which I think we have to take into consideration, amongst others is: whether the ten millions in our self-governing colonies ought to expect the three hundred and ninety millions in the rest of the British Empire to adopt their particular views in regard to the fiscal system, or whether on the other hand, we may reasonably expect the ten millions in our self-governing colonies to fall into line with the rest of the Empire on a free trade system. (Hear, hear). That is a fair matter for consideration.

Now we have had from Canada, as I said, most liberal treatment in the rebate which they have given us, and I must say that it redounds immensely to the credit and to the patriotism and to the unselfishness of our Canadian friends. (Hear, hear). That rebate when it was given was declared by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in these terms—he said: "This we have done, not asking for any *quid pro quo*; we have done it because we owe a debt of gratitude to Great Britain; we have done it because it is no intention of ours to distrust in any way the free trade system which has done so much for England." And again he added: "And we give England this preference; we ask for nothing in return. Why do we give it? Before we brought in our tariff we carefully looked around the world, and we found England practically the only country which received our products free of duty. We desire to show England loyal gratitude." Well, that is a noble declaration, and on the strength of that declaration, however, freely and honestly I express my convictions on this great fiscal question, bear in mind I do not think for one moment that the inhabitants of our self-governing colonies are seeking any selfish preference to the disadvantage of the Mother Country.

Now we had a statement made by one of high position and great authority in regard to this particular proposal, that some preferential arrangement of tariff should be made between the Mother Country and the colonies. He said:

"This proposal requires that we should abandon our system in favor of theirs, and it is in effect that while the colonies should be left absolutely free to impose what protective duty they please, both on foreign countries and on British commerce, they should be required to make a small discrimination in favor of British trade, in return for which we are expected to change our whole system and impose duties on food and raw materials. Well, I express my own opinion when I say there is not the slightest chance that in any reasonable time this country or the Parliament of this country will adopt so one-sided an agreement. The foreign trade of the country is large, and the foreign trade of the colonies is comparatively small. A preference which should be given to us by the colonies over the foreign trade would be trifling and it will be a small benefit to the total volume of our trade. So much so that I do not believe the working classes of this country would consent to make a revolutionary change for what they would think would be an infinite small gain."

"These are the words of the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain on June 9th, 1896. Now, My Lord, if the proposal were that within the British Empire we should have the same free trade system which is in force between the various States of the United States of America, covering a huge continent, or which is in

forces in the various countries of the German Empire, than I would be with my Canadian friends down to the ground. (Applause). What are the present trade relations between the Motherland and the colonies? The Motherland is after all the only free market in the world to which the colonies can send their products. Canada sent her last year twenty-three millions. On the other hand I must state that I do not consider it reciprocity that on the ten millions worth of goods we send Canada—I do not consider it fair that Canada should have taxed that ten millions to the extent of one million eight hundred thousand and odd. It is also true that Canada offers the same advantages they have already conceded to Great Britain to all other nations which give them equal reciprocity or reciprocity which they regard as adequate. Now, the question has been raised as to the effect that the placing of a duty upon corn would have on the price of bread in the Mother Country. Sir William Holland, in his most able and statesmanlike speech—(hear, hear), gave figures which I had intended to quote, giving the relative prices of wheat in Italy, France and Germany, under high tariffs, as against the cost of wheat in the Mother Country. I may be allowed perhaps to quote another high opinion as to the effect of a protective tariff on wheat if imposed in the Mother Country for the benefit of Canada and the other self-governing colonies. This quotation is headed: "What a tax on food means."

"A tax on food would mean a reduction in wages, would suddenly involve the reduction of their productive value, the same amount of money would have a smaller purchasing power; it would mean more than this, it would raise the price of every article produced in Great Britain."

MR. T. V. S. ANGLIER: Query!

MR. WALTON: ".....and it would indubitably bring about the loss of a valuable export trade....."

MR. ANGLIER: Query!

MR. WALTON: "..... which the industry and energy of the country, working under conditions of absolute freedom, have brought out." There were cries of "Question," as I was reading this. I have only to say that that is the opinion of Mr. Chamberlain, expressed in 1881. (Laughter).

A DELEGATE: He has advanced since then.

ANOTHER DELEGATE: When did he say that?

MR. WALTON: On the 12th August, 1881.

A DELEGATE: He is wiser now.

ANOTHER DELEGATE: That is ancient history.

MR. WALTON: My friends say that is ancient history. Well, I can only say that it is a matter of opinion as to whether the right honorable gentleman holds the same opinions still; and I have no doubt my friends in Canada have heard his most recent expression of opinion and therefore they can put the one against the other and reconcile them if they can.

MR. ANGLIER: Politics!

MR. ROBERT MEIGHEN (Montreal): The gentleman's remarks are neither square nor upright.

MR. WALTON: I remember my friend's expressions about Sir William Holland before adjournment and therefore I take them at their true value. My Lord, not only do we give to our colonial friends an absolutely free market for their products in the Mother Country, but there is carried on at the expense of the British tax payer, so far as Canada is concerned, the whole cost of Imperial defence except the cost of the militia which Canada provides. I was pleased to hear the sentiments of gentlemen from Canada who spoke earlier, and therefore I am sanguine to believe that

Canadians do not shirk bearing a fair and reasonable share of the cost of Imperial defence. (Applause). But at the same time, up to the present moment I think the Mother Country has given some assistance to Canada, and without grumbling. We do not make any dictatorial demands—the Canadian people, to whom we have given autonomy, would not tolerate it—but we believe the same spirit of self-sacrifice which brought them shoulder to shoulder with the Mother Country in the South African war will bring them shoulder to shoulder with her in bearing the cost of the defence of the Empire.

Now, in regard to Canada there is also a question we might have in the future to complain of, and that is the question, not only of the high tariff which they impose on goods not only of the Motherland, but of Australia and the other colonies, but there might be a question of bounties to which we might have objections to offer. We have lately concluded a sugar convention which we think will have the effect of making Britons pay millions more for their sugar than foreign nations do, and therefore, in view of such a convention, it is hardly likely we would be disposed to have bounties given Canadian manufacturers by the Canadian Government to enable them to compete in the British market or even in Australia. At the same time this is a question which ought to be taken into consideration when reviewing the whole matter. So far as we know the colonies consider it to be to their interest to continue, at any rate, duties sufficiently high to protect and develop their own industries. (Hear, hear). If they think that is to the advantage of their respective colonies, I have no objection to offer, because they have the right to do it, but it does constitute a difficulty in coming to any arrangement between free trade England and protectionist colonies in the direction of the resolution under consideration. Now I see the Canadian manufacturers passed a resolution bearing upon this question a short time ago. They set forth that in their opinion the duties ought not to be reduced below a point at which they would be sufficiently protective for the development of Canadian industries. (Hear, hear.) That position it is within their right to take up, but that is a position which the Mother Country is bound also to take into consideration, because the return we are supposed to get for giving a preferential tariff in favor of food products of Canada and the other colonies imported into Great Britain, is that we should have a substantially increased export trade of manufactured goods to the colonies. Now, as a matter of fact, the question we as Britishers have to consider is how far the bounty system begun and the protective system in force—which in the judgment of our self-governing colonies must continue—would operate to prevent that large increase in the export of British manufactured goods to the self-governing colonies which would give us a *quid pro quo* for any sacrifices we would make in putting on duties on food stuffs coming into the United Kingdom.

Well, I think that you will admit that that is a fair consideration, that we must in considering this important question not disregard it. Any remarks we may make as to the diminished quantity of the wheat growing area in the United Kingdom—well, the long and short of the matter is this, that in the United Kingdom the prices of beef and mutton and dairy produce have been so exceedingly high that we have transferred the same area of wheat growing land to permanent pasture that we have reduced in wheat growing. (Cries of "no, no.")

And it is simply because it pays us better to do so, and because we recognize that in the illimitable prairies of Canada there is a wheat growing country which can produce wheat cheaper than we can in the United Kingdom, and we prefer, therefore, to produce at home

what will pay us best, and to draw increased supplies of wheat from Canada.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I would infinitely prefer to draw our wheat from Canada than from the United States of America; because we draw £187,000,000 worth of produce and manufactured goods from the United States, and they only take in return £33,000,000 of manufactured goods from us, but I am bound to say that while I would rather draw our wheat from Canada than from the United States, I would still rather draw our wheat from India than from Canada. (Hear, hear.) And for this simple reason, that India has only imposed an ad valorem duty of five per cent. on our manufactured goods, whilst in Canada our manufactured goods are taxed to the extent of at least eighteen per cent. Gentlemen, I do not advance these points in any unduly controversial spirit. I desire to increase the trade between the Mother Country and the self-governing colonies, but, as practical business men, let us look at this question all round, and, I think, in putting before you certain considerations that the Mother Country must have regard to, I am only putting before you what you desire to discuss and consider. The English standard is—

LORD BRASSBY: I am sorry to draw your remarks to a close, but there are forty-four speakers down.

COL. DENISON: Mr. Chairman, the last speaker spoke for twenty minutes. I wish to know whether each speaker is to have twenty minutes.

LORD BRASSBY: Certainly not. A certain amount of indulgence has been given to the speakers on this side because it was given to those on the other side, but hereafter the limit will be ten minutes.

MR. WALTON: May I be allowed to apologize? (Cries of "No," and laughter.)

SIR EDWARD BUCK (Cawnpore, Upper India Chamber of Commerce): I hope I shall not detain you for ten minutes, but I am glad an opportunity has been given me to express my satisfaction that India has been prominently mentioned in connection with these inquiries. (Hear, hear.) It could hardly be otherwise. The dependency of the Empire of which the imports and exports are valued at 150 millions pounds sterling cannot be ignored. There are very many questions of importance which will have to be dealt with in any inquiry. All of them will, no doubt, receive proper consideration from the Government of Canada and from natives and European residents in Canada who know best what will benefit the country in which they live. I will not trespass on your time further than to mention one subject which will illustrate the importance of the question which may arise. It is this: Any encouragement which can be given to the export of food grains, especially wheat from India is of big value to that country. Any export which may be created in food grains from India in normal years tends to set a supply which is available for the people in years of famine. It is easy to see the reason why. Suppose that India only grew enough grain to supply its own people in ordinary years. It would have to import enormous quantities of grain in years of scarcity. Hence, if the normal exports of grain, especially of wheat are large, it is only necessary to withhold from export in years of famine the surplus grain grown for external demand. This is a point which is not always understood. India would then feed itself. I remember that in one year of famine, considerable wheat actually railed to Bombay was brought back to the interior when the failure of the crop in a certain region threatened famine and raised prices in an internal province. The exports of wheat now from India vary greatly. The normal figure would be about twenty millions of bushels. It is really about double that in normal years, while in the famine years, such as that of three years ago, it falls almost to zero.

It might be suspected that in a famine year the wheat crop would more or less fail. That is not the case and that is why I have drawn special attention to the export of wheat. Wheat is grown to a great extent on land protected by irrigation, and on such land the out-turn per acre is often greater in the year of famine. The wheat out-turn is therefore less affected by rain than any of the other food crops. It may be added that there is great room for extension, both in the acreage and in the yield per acre of wheat and particularly in the yield per acre. I was for some years associated with the control of the agriculture, woods and forests departments of India, and nothing in those years impressed me more than the advantage of encouraging the cultivation of wheat for export as providing an important and effective aid to fall back on in years of scarcity. I will not say more. I only wished to illustrate by this one example the importance of the questions in which India may be concerned and nothing can be more important than the food supplies of a people in a year of scarcity.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will call on Mr. Belcher, of Winnipeg.

MR. H. M. BELCHER (Winnipeg Board of Trade): As a representative of the Board of Winnipeg, I have very great pleasure in anporting this motion. I desire to draw some little attention to the motion itself, because of the amendment that has been introduced, and also the statement made by the seconder of the address, alluding to the word "thus" being introduced. He alluded to it as being an error that had crept in, but that is not the case. It was introduced after careful consideration, by the committee which had in hand the arranging of the compromise resolution, and it was considered important as connecting this clause with the enunciative principle, which is very clear cut and and emphatically stated in the original clause, and which if it is not connected, would seem to lose very much of its force. The committee which had that in charge wished to carry out the idea, the second clause is to be connected and carried out according to the principles that are enunciated in the original clause.

As regards the few words that Sir William Holland has moved in amendment, there was some difference of opinion as to whether it would be harmful or not to introduce them. The general impression is, that the original clause as put on paper, carries on the face of it the desire that no harm whatever shall be done to any industry of any component part of the Empire. And it is quite possible, if no further amendments are introduced, that at the end of the discussion some plan may be devised, by which we can all meet on common ground. As I only have ten minutes, I wish to use them to answer one or two statements made by Sir William Holland and subsequent speakers, which I think, are not accurate and not fair to the Canadian sections of this Congress. He has stated, putting it very nicely, but the sneer was there, that we were actuated by a desire to bargain. I would ask you, gentlemen, has the action of Canada had in the least, from start to finish, that meaning. Six years ago we gave this preference, and have continued it all through that time. Does that look like the action of a section that desired to bargain? ("Hear, hear"). We have not only given it, but we have increased it, and though it is quite true I believe, that at the beginning Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he wanted nothing in return, I fancy, he meant he did not wish to bargain for anything in return, and supposed when this preference was given, England would bestir herself to find some means of practically returning the favor. Since then another official statement has been made by a member of the Government, which contradicts that, and says the time will come when we shall have



to consider whether the preference can be continued if it is found there are insurmountable objections against any return being made. I cannot think there are any such objections. The great bug-bear seems to be free trade. Without this question of preference, others are arising in the Mother Country which are compelling them to turn their attention to the possibility of a certain amount of abandonment of free trade. It cannot be called free trade, which gives everything and does not get in return any sort of consideration from the foreign countries which get the benefit. The feature that is disappointing to Canadians is, that though we get everything free into England, much of the advantage is robbed of its effect by the fact that Great Britain gives it as freely to countries which are hostile.

In referring to the matter of the food supply, I think that is a question which has two sides to it at least. There are possibly more, but at least there are two. We heard Mr. Boulton, who is a strong free trader, by birth and training, but who cannot shut his eyes to the changed condition of affairs. He said that putting on a shilling a quarter did not raise the price of the loaf. He could not say how much more could be put on without doing so. He said there could be no advance up to that point. That is a paradox. I don't think we need look far before we come on very many paradoxes. It seems to be capable of abundant proof theoretically that if a country has protection, it raises cost of living and wages, and is unable to compete with foreign countries. Do we find that to be the case in practice? We find the country to the south of us is very active in competition with free trade countries, showing that these dangers do not exist. Wage-earners there are much more comfortable, and I think, and should be very sorry to be compelled to think otherwise, that British statesmen can find the means to give a special preference within the family that won't be enjoyed by others outside, without in any way crippling their power as a commercial union. We expect them to do so, and would be sorry for them to take any action which would place their colonies at a disadvantage; but if they will just cast about, they will be able to find the means to achieve that end. I don't think that there is anything inconsistent in that, and the trade of the Empire will not be at any disadvantage that is of sufficient weight to weigh against the advantages that our country will derive. (Applause.)

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I will now call upon Mr. Ellis, representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

**MR. P. W. ELLIS (Ex-President Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Toronto):** My Lord Chairman and fellow-members of this Congress: During the few minutes allotted to me, I hope to address you from the standpoint of the Canadian manufacturers—(hear, hear)—and I trust that if I should intrude for a minute or so beyond the ten minutes which you allow for each speaker that you will have the same indulgence with me as has been already shown during the day.

Allow me to remark, by the way, that the Association, which is represented here by ten delegates drawn from all the Provinces of the whole Dominion, enrolls in its membership 1,250 members, operating in every portion of this great Dominion, from the Province of Nova Scotia to the Province of British Columbia, and that they control an investment estimated in the neighborhood of \$400,000,000 of money.

I can quite understand that there might be differences of opinion among us upon such a large question as the Imperial Trade policy. Yet, I believe that we are generally agreed that the time is ripe for us to consider if we cannot have some sort of commercial unity which will mean for the future commercial

co-operation rather than commercial disintegration. And, gentlemen, I do not wish to convey the idea that we believe for one moment that the practical manner of putting that into operation shall be a uniform manner throughout all parts of the Empire, but I do believe that we can each, while legislating for our separate parts, take into consideration the needs of every other part, and if we do that we accomplish much, and are in a fair way of accomplishing more. (Applause.)

Now, gentlemen, when the present policy of Great Britain was established some fifty years ago, things were very different from what they are to-day. Germany had not attained its present industrial supremacy. The United States, Great Britain's keenest competitor, was not then in the shape she is to-day, and, gentlemen further, the colonies of Great Britain had not developed their powers of supplying her with foodstuffs and raw materials. Sir William Holland remarked this morning that he wished that that ability to provide Great Britain was largely increased; and how it could not increase unless it was given the greatest possible encouragement. Now, gentlemen, things are changed to-day. Canada five years ago offered a preference to Great Britain, at first of 25 per cent. off the imports into this country, and then, two years afterwards, of 33 1-3 per cent., which means that the goods of foreign countries entering the ports of Canada, must pay fifty per cent higher duty than the goods of the Mother Country. Now, gentlemen, you may be sure, that such a change of policy was calculated to injure the material interests of the manufacturers of Canada, greater perhaps than any other interest involved in this country. Yet, did they protest? On the contrary, they were prepared to give their fellow British citizens a distinct advantage in the markets of Canada over the goods of the foreign nations, and permit me just at this juncture to read to you a few words spoken by our beloved and foremost of Canadian citizens, Lord Startheona—(applause)—at a banquet held in this Windsor Hotel in November, 1901.

"It speaks well for the true-heartedness, for the loyalty, and for the devotion of the manufacturers of Canada, that not one word was heard against that preferential tariff with the Old Country. We must have been expected to be the first to find fault with it. It is indeed a happy thing to find that self-interest—for some of you must have felt that they would have had a somewhat better chance without that preferential tariff, but it is indeed a happy thing for us, and a happy thing for the Dominion as a whole, that we subdued those personal feelings, and personal interests, to a large extent, and that we conceded to the general good, not of the Dominion alone, but of the whole Empire."

Now, gentlemen, I want to be perfectly frank, I do not think anything is to be gained by hiding back the situation that we occupy—(hear, hear)—and I wish to say, that so far as the manufacturers are concerned, we believe we have gone far enough—(hear, hear)—and we will oppose strenuously any reduction in the present duties and any increase in the preference unless there is a corresponding increase in the duties. Before I conclude my remarks I hope to be able to show our fellow British manufacturers, that there is ample opportunity for them to further greatly develop their business in this market.

Has the preference helped Great Britain? Observe how her exports to Canada were falling off until the preference came, and from that day to this it has been increasing. Now, gentlemen, we are to-day speaking to a resolution that we hope is going to grant some measure of substantial advantage to the various colonies of the Empire, in order that this preference intro-





duced by Canada may become more general, and though we have not made it a condition, yet, you may be sure we are quite prepared to receive heartily and openly any additional consideration that Great Britain can extend to the colonies other than she is extending to-day. The colonies to-day, gentlemen, purchase \$2 for every \$1 purchased by foreign countries. The total trade, by the way, is not so great. And why? Because our population is not yet equal to the population of the foreign countries, and as it grows, the rate will be increased as the population is increased.

Now, the bell has been rung, and I am just going to glance over a few points that I proposed to touch upon, and I am going to say a few words to the manufacturers of Great Britain. I want to say this. Last year we had a balance of trade in our favor with Great Britain of \$51,000,000 of money. We had a balance of trade against us with the United States of \$46,000,000 of money. In other words, of the \$51,000,000 received from Great Britain, \$46,000,000 had to be handed over to the United States in payment for goods which British manufacturers, had they been alive to their interests could have furnished. (Great applause.) Great Britain supplies of watch movements, \$3,360, out of a total import of \$672,063; of lamps and chandeliers, \$5,000, out of a total import of \$282,000; guns, \$250,000, of which Great Britain supplied \$24,000; brass goods, \$506,000, Great Britain supplied \$89,000; and yet, gentlemen, those goods had to pay 50 per cent. more duty than the British goods have to pay. (Hear, hear.)

I thought the policy of the British individual was "a fair field and no favor," but we have been greatly handicapped by foreign nations and yet British manufacturers permit foreign nations to monopolize more and more the markets of this Dominion. If the manufacturers of Canada are going to be hurt, we would rather be hurt by British manufacturers than by foreign manufacturers. (Cheers.)

Gentlemen, what are the opportunities of Great Britain under the present conditions? We are told that the preference is of no advantage because the duty that is left is still too high for them to scramble over. Remember the duties that Canada has at their fullest extent are only half what they are in the United States. (Applause.) Would you consider it an advantage if the United States would give you one-third off their high duties? How do you consider the one-third we have given you off our low duties? Now, here is your opportunity. Last year we imported \$24,000,000 from foreign countries of iron and steel goods and manufactures thereof. We imported \$2,800,000 of cotton fabrics and manufactures; of earthenware and porcelainware, \$617,000; glass and glassware, \$2,700,000; laces, braids, cords, etc., \$1,000,000; hats, caps and bonnets, \$1,000,000; gloves and mitts, \$721,000; jewellery, \$696,000; lamps and lanterns, \$550,000; electric motors, \$1,530,000; dry lead, \$640,000; paper, \$1,726,000. These items alone represent nearly \$40,000,000 of trade in Canada alone, which might be kept within the Empire. And that does not give it all. There is ample opportunity yet for you in the Dominion of Canada under the present conditions if you simply rise to the occasion, and as far as the Canadian manufacturers are concerned, we will take you by the arm, while the foreigners take you by the leg. (Cheers and laughter.)

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Lugrin, of Victoria, B.C.

MR. C. H. LUORIN (Victoria, B.C., Board of Trade): Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: After the very able speech that you have just heard, I would hesitate about making any remarks to this Congress if it were not that I have been expressly instructed by the Board of Trade which

I represent, not to be content to cast a silent vote upon this question. The Board of Trade of the far western city of Victoria (B.C.), appreciates in the highest degree the importance to Canada of an inter-Imperial preference, and they are convinced that when once the principle which underlies that preference is thoroughly understood, a system can be devised which will increase the commerce of all parts of the Empire to a degree which is impossible under the present system. (Applause).

The discussion so far has turned principally upon the supply of food-stuffs from Canada to Great Britain, although there have been some references to the supply of other raw materials. I think it would be a mistake if the British delegates returned from this Convention with the impression that what the people of Canada desire, is to supply them with raw material. We expect to do our share of the manufacturing of the world. (Applause). We expect to be able to show to the people of England that there are in this Dominion of ours unlimited opportunities for the investment of capital in manufactures from which the world can be supplied. (Hear, hear). Nor is the question one merely of trade relations with the Mother Country. Speaking as a representative of the Pacific coast, I may have to say that what concerns us most are the trade relations between the Pacific Coast and the British possessions on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. We desire, if possible, that some arrangement can be reached whereby the Canadian products of the Pacific Coast can enter the British possessions on the other side of the Pacific Ocean under more favorable conditions than those with which they are now obliged to contend. We are prepared so far as we can, in that part of Canada to extend to the other colonies and dependencies of the Empire as large a measure of reciprocity as they can possibly demand. (Applause).

Now, gentlemen, there is another aspect of the case to which I think some reference should be made, namely, this: We are told that this is to be a policy of "give and take." That is right, and unless it is a policy of "give and take," it will be a failure; but I regret to say, that with the Canadian speakers who have taken part in this debate, it has been principally, from their point of view, a policy of "take." (Laughter). I would have felt better pleased as a Canadian, if some of the strenuous advocates of this policy had intimated to our British friends what Canada is prepared "to give." (Applause). We produce almost everything, excepting perhaps, cotton and sugar, that the Empire needs. Our prairies can produce all the breadstuffs that Great Britain requires; our ranches can produce all the cattle; we have pasturage that can produce all the sheep; we have forests that can supply all the timber; we have mines that can yield all the copper, and all the silver, and all the lead that the United Kingdom may need. (Applause). Now, I, as one Canadian, would like to see the products of this country admitted into the United Kingdom on more favorable terms than are accorded to the products of any other country, (hear, hear) but I admit that we must, in consideration for that great advantage, be prepared to concede something to the Mother Country, and what that something is, it seems to me, the people of Canada should not allow this Congress to pass without giving expression to? (Applause).

I was much impressed with the remark Mr. Walton made when he referred to the United States. The reason that protection has been a success in the United States was given by him, because there is free trade between 46 commonwealths, with a population of eighty millions of people; and, if I stand alone among the Canadian delegates to this conference, I am going to say that I believe a sine qua non of inter-imperial

preference should be free trade between all portions of the Empire. (Cheers). Now, gentlemen, just one word before I sit down. I said that I came here in response to the pleasure of the Board of Trade which I represent. I would not be doing my duty to that Board of Trade, I would not be doing my duty to myself as a Canadian, as a Canadian from the Far-West, who I hope is inspired by some of the hopefulness in regard to achievements in the future which seems to be in the atmosphere of that part of the Dominion, I would not be doing my duty as such a Canadian, if I did not enter a feeble protest at least against the alarmist—I say advisedly the alarmist—ideas advanced by the gentlemen who moved this resolution. I deny as emphatically as I can that the British Empire ever was or ever will be cemented together by tariffs. We are not merely a trading corporation; we are something more than that. As a people, we are the custodians and guardians of the principles that have been evolved in all the history of mankind, the great principles of self-government, the principle of absolute freedom. When our institutions become such, that in order to preserve them, it is necessary for us to resort to tariffs, then I for one will begin to doubt whether the British Empire is worth preserving. But it, being as it is, an Empire that is founded on principles that have stood the test of centuries, it will endure no matter what we may do with our tariffs, and in future generations, the young men of Canada will be as ready to lay down their lives in the defence of the Empire, as our boys were a few years ago when they left our shores for South Africa. (Loud and prolonged applause).

THE CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Mr. Hogg, of North Shields.

MR. G. H. HOGG (North Shields and Tynemouth Chamber of Commerce): My Lord and Gentlemen: I thought at first I was to introduce a new element into the discussion, but I find I am simply following a man to whom I can give a very loyal and hearty support. I stand here, Mr. Chairman, as an opponent of any proposal which will prevent the Mother Country buying in the cheapest markets. And if I should happen to say a single word that may perhaps be in discord with the majority of this meeting, I take refuge in the assumption at any rate, that every gentleman here has learned the lesson which, I think, ought to be the first lesson for every public man to learn, that is, to give as much credit for sincerity of action, and sincerity of thought and to give as much freedom of speech and freedom of thought to others as we claim for ourselves.

Sir, some things have already been gained from this discussion: We have learned without a shadow of a doubt, I think, that our Canadian brethren—and such, I think, we may always be able to call them,—our Canadian brethren do not propose any change which they think would be detrimental to the best interests of the Empire. (Hear, hear). That has been abundantly clear to-day, but more than that, I took this from a Canadian newspaper of July 17th, a Toronto paper: "Canada does not ask for Great Britain to adopt a policy which would help the colonies at the expense of the Empire. We do not ask to be nonriched at the expense of the British tax payer." And, gentlemen, I believe we can go a little further, and we can say that this change is not necessary, either to the existence or to the prosperity of Canada, or to any of the other colonies. You in Canada are prosperous as it is. You have been endowed by Nature with enormous resources, with resources which have made the success of your great neighbor to the south, and resources which are bound to make you continually successful in the future. And I say, that in the hour of your greatest

success there is not a Britisher who will not rejoice heartily, however successful you may be. (Hear, hear).

Then, sir, I will not reply to the insinuation which has been hinted in some quarters, that this change is necessary to preserve the loyalty of our Canadian friends. (No, no). I can assure you, sir, that there is not an Englishman or a Britisher, I believe, who is not prepared to depend upon the loyalty of this country, which, through all the years that have passed, has grown with your growth and strengthened with your strength. Such loyalty is not now to be placed upon the sordid basis of financial interest. And, gentlemen, if it be not correct that this change is required in the interest, or at any rate for the prosperity of the colonies, it comes to this, that the onus of proof is upon those who say that the change is necessary at all. It has also been said that this change is necessary to prevent the Old Country going under. Well, I believe these gentlemen are honest enough in their desires—perfectly honest in their desires—but I want to know if ever there was a day in the history of our country when we had not a man who prophesied that the Old Country was going under, that its sun was set, and that we had to take a back seat among the nations of the world, and that upon the portals of our nation we had to write the word "Ichabod." Yet, Mr. Chairman, every day and every hour has proved the falsity of their predictions, and yet the race of prophets seems to grow no less. You, my Lord, stated some figures the other day which I beg leave to bring up even to last year. You stated that the taxable incomes from 1890 to 1902 have grown from £669,000,000 to £833,000,000; our savings bank deposits have increased from £111,000,000 to £187,000,000. Our pauperism has been reduced from 4.6 to 2.6 per cent., and I tell you, sir, that in the face of these statements, I think we have a right to say to these prognosticators of evil.

"Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take."

The Honorable member who proposed this resolution yesterday in a very eloquent speech, stated that on one side we had a united Empire, and on the other side of the proposal we had a disunited Empire or an Empire resolved into its component parts. I am glad he said it was a nightmare. I regard it as nothing but a nightmare, but I believe, sir, the properties of nightmares disappear when men open their eyes. (Applause). And I mean to say, sir, that when those who tell us that the Old Country is going to the bad, if we do not adopt their particular nostrums, open their eyes, they will find, as he suggested, the lions they have seen in the way are lions stuffed with straw. The honorable gentleman told us he believed in the open door in summer time, but when winter came he believed in closing the doors. But I would respectfully suggest, sir, that he waits till winter comes, and that if you close the doors in the summer you stand the chance of suffocation. In England the winter days of our commercial prosperity have not arrived. (Applause.) And I say, sir, we would make a mistake if we closed the doors at the present time without the slightest suggestion of those evil days being upon us. The honorable gentleman told us of smiling acres no longer tilled and he quoted those beautiful lines of the poet:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,  
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

Let me only say, Mr. Chairman,—I am sorry my time has gone—

SEVERAL DELEGATES: "Go on."

MR. HOGG: Let me only say, sir, that in those beautiful days when we grew most corn it was that men most decayed and wealth did not accumulate. It has been said from this platform that sentiment is sentiment,

and business is business. I cannot see why sentiment and business cannot flow on side by side. It is sentiment, sir, which has done more to build up the Empire than all our guns and all our ships. It is sentiment which to-day makes the solitary wanderer in the lonely corner of the earth look to those two gems of the ocean set in their silver seas, and be more proud of them and of being a Briton than in the olden days when the Roman looked back to the Palatine and its white homes and rejoiced in the name of Rome. (Applause). But sir, sentiment means something else. Sentiment means that in every country of the world we have a few men who believe in free trade. It is to England that these few have looked to hold aloft the banner of free trade, as in the past she was looked to, to raise on high the beacon light of civil and religious liberty. They have seen the spectacle of a great nation holding on her way without halting for fear or the threats of other nations. Are we to turn our backs upon that? Are we to say that the policy which has made us great is no longer worthy to be followed by us?

"And so, sirs, in our dreams we see,  
"A noble people, strong and free,  
"Not scions of a servile race,  
"But sons of those who proudly trace  
"Their lineage to Saxon blood." (Applause.)

MR. GEORGE HURST (Birstall and District Chamber of Commerce): My Lord and gentlemen: The speech that we just listened to is a most remarkable one for oratory.

MR. ANGLIER: And nothing else.

MR. HURST: I would rather deal with a bushel of facts.

A DELEGATE: That is more like it.

MR. HURST: I was born on the day that one of the greatest men that England ever knew, Sir Robert Peel, passed his bill through the House of Lords in 1846, on the sixteenth day of May. I have been nurtured and bred upon the policy of free trade. My Lord, to-day I stand here as a living example of what free trade would be if the world would only adopt it and follow our example. Cobden, Bright and Villiers sent forth to the world a policy, the beneficence of which would have blessed the world if it had taken it up. But it has not. It has been my fortune, My Lord, to travel throughout Europe and the United States, and, Liberal in my political opinions as I have been all my life and free trader as I have been, through every disorder, still the force of circumstances has compelled me to so alter my opinions. —(applause)—that I stand here to-day, having lost faith in those opinions unless they can be adopted under some circumstances or other by the other nations with whom we trade. (Applause). The position stands thus, and I want to speak for a moment upon a question which immediately concerns my own branch of business; I speak for the heavy woollen industry in Yorkshire. What is the condition? The condition is this, mill after mill has been shut in the past year on account of the competition of Germany and Holland and other countries, and more especially of the United States. Up to 20 years ago practically no manufactured goods of the heavy woollen class came into our country. To-day we stand in this position. Holland, by reason of her labor being immensely cheaper than ours, was able last year to dump on our market two million yards of mantle cloth, to the displacement of our own labor in our own neighbourhood. (Applause). So also with Germany. Sir William Holland has made the statement that he was afraid if we began to touch it is question, the effect will be that those countries with which we now are trading will resort to policies inimical to our country. Gentlemen, have they not already done that? (Cries of

"Yes," and prolonged applause). Surely the Nemesis of their own reasoning and action ought to be brought home to them. I plead this—and I will give you a little anecdote to show the force of it—I plead this: you may open your ports and make your country a ground for dumping goods with the result that instead of increasing the prosperity of your laborers, you have to reduce their wages in consequence. If Holland can place that quantity of goods on our market, of which in the London markets the difference is only a half penny or a penny a yard, to the displacement of thousands of laborers, I ask you in all reason would it not be better for us to pay that difference and employ our own labor. (Applause). What I say is that we should hold on to our own markets, and if they will give us a fair chance with regard to the foreign markets, we are prepared to stand or fall by our own abilities and our own resources and to compete with them in neutral markets. The story that I was going to tell is this. A certain man from Connemara came down to ask for work. He got a job, by which he was enabled to earn from twenty-three to thirty shillings a week. After working three or four weeks he went one day to a man who dealt in eggs and groceries and such things and he said "Well, now Mr. Graham, what is the price of your eggs to-day?" Mr. Graham said "they are thirteen for a shilling." "Why," exclaimed the man in astonishment "in Connemara we can get eggs at thirty-six for a shilling." "Then, why didn't you stop there?" "Because I couldn't get the shillings." (Applause). And I don't want our people to get to that condition. We do not want to take commodities from people who are protected up to the hilt and who dump their surplus products on our market and thus deprive our own people of labour. I not only want to avoid that, but I need protection to do it. The statesmanship of our people is not yet exhausted, and I believe they still retain power to take this question up and handle it in such a way as will be a benefit to our people. My friend here says "what are you going to do." He says, "I believe in free trade all around amongst the colonies." So do I, but we have got to look at these questions in a practical light. You have this people just across the border, and there you find the people paying the highest wages in the world, and you have to get yourselves into such circumstances that you can pay at least sufficient wages that will retain the working men in this country. And that is what they need. Give them that and we retain them. Just one sentence more and I am finished. We have spent our blood and treasure for the making of an Empire such as the world has never seen before, and we are spending over a hundred millions in order to protect it. The first leaf of the olive branch has been held out, the first preference that has been given, has come from the side of the water on which we are to-day.

The close of Mr. Hurst's address was greeted with great applause, a large number standing up and saluting him with three cheers.

MR. EBENEZER PARKES, M.P. (Birmingham Chamber): My Lord and Gentlemen: I want to claim your attention for a short time while I answer some of the arguments which have been put by the other side, I mean the free trade side. I claim your indulgence, as I am one of the four members of the British Parliament on the platform, and I hope if I stray beyond the time that you will give me perhaps not the same privileges as the others, but something approaching it. I am the only representative here from Birmingham and, as you know, Birmingham has some interest in this matter. (Hear, hear). Well, now, in the first place I am quite prepared to accept the resolution as it stands. (Applause). I think it requires no modification. I think the words which are suggested to add to it would



not improve, but they are simply a repetition of what goes before in the resolution. I have myself, no hesitation whatever in voting for this resolution. As you know, Birmingham probably is divided upon this question, but I think I am perfectly justified when I interpret the feeling of the people of Birmingham by voting for this resolution. I know that the great majority of the Chambers which are represented here from England, came over with the idea that they were pledged to enquiry and to enquiry only. Well now, this resolution simply desires a commercial treaty based upon the principles of mutual benefit. I think we can all agree to that. Then it goes on to suggest enquiry by representatives of Great Britain and her colonies. Well, now, that will meet the views of those who are committed to enquiry only, so that I should think and hope that this resolution will meet all the desires and feelings of those who came from the Mother Country on purpose to do something towards promoting this grand object. Mr. Hogg is a free trader and I am very glad, I am sure we are all glad, to have had the opinions of the free traders, two or three of them, two or three distinguished free traders, so that we may know what is in their case. Mr. Hogg said, "It is the grand and glorious principles of free trade which have made England what it is." He referred to the savings banks, I will remind him, that amongst the nations of Europe, there is no country in Europe at the present time which has so little per head of the population in the savings banks as England has. I would also like to remind you that the protectionist countries of the world have increased their manufactures, and have increased their exports of manufactured goods to a much larger extent than England has during the last thirty or forty years. (Applause). He talked about the flag of free trade. I remind you that that flag has been waving as he said for fifty years, and it has not got a single imitator at the present time. What is the use of waving a flag if you get no converts? We have no converts at the present time in the great manufacturing countries of the world, and I say it is futile to talk about the grand and glorious flag of free trade. Well, now, I want to speak to one or two arguments. One which I have heard several times, is that all the Chancellors of the Exchequer at present living are in favor of free trade. Let us take the Chancellors. There are three of them. Two of them are brought up in the old-fashioned school of free trade, and therefore, too late in life to alter their opinions. But, with regard to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, there is no Chancellor living at the present time who did more than he to increase the tax on food. When he put the shilling tax on corn, he said: "This is not a protective tax." Mr. Gladstone said the same thing, and he said also: "I don't want to make this tax simply a war tax, but a permanent tax, because I want to broaden the fiscal policy." That is one of them. With regard to the others, I say there is no man, either Chancellor of the Exchequer or any other man who understands trade, who understands the condition of the colonies, who understands the peculiar requirements of the colonies better than, or so well as Mr. Chamberlain does at the present time. (Applause).

Well, now, a great point is being made of the question of the cost of living. That, I take it, is one of the chief points urged by Sir William Holland against this proposal. In the first place, as has been said, it is a very debatable point if an increase of two shillings a quarter will increase the cost of living. There are very eminent economists who say the cost is borne mainly by the producer. In the case of the shilling tax we put on British corn lately, there is no doubt it was borne by the producer. But what does Mr. Chamberlain say? He says:

"If you put it on corn, I will guarantee it shall not cost the workingmen any more to live than at the present time." Two shillings on corn would mean 1s. 6d. per head per annum of the population. At the present time there is a duty of six-pence a pound on tea. The population of England consumes seven pounds per head per annum of tea. If you take three-pence off the tea it would mean 1s. 9d. per head, against 1s. 6d., which the increase of 2s. on the corn would give; so by the reduction of only one-half the duty on tea, you would wipe away the extra cost on corn. Mr. Chamberlain would stake his reputation that the cost of living need not be increased to the working man. If Mr. Chamberlain's remarks are right, and if they come out true, then the Manchester case disappears entirely. What I want to ask is: is a commercial union possible? Sir William Holland mentioned the question of the increase in the price of German bread in consequence of the tariff. But it is not an analogous case between Germany and England. The case of Germany would be a parallel with ours if their colonies sent in food; but the foreign food sent into our country by foreign countries is to some extent neutralized by the food we would get from our own colonies free. (At this point the time bell rang).

A DELEGATE: I move the speaker be allowed another five minutes.

Carried unanimously.

MR. PARKES (Continuing): What I want to ask is: is a commercial union necessary to the present and ultimate unity of the Empire? Is a commercial unity a factor, and an important one, in uniting the Empire? A great deal of reference has been made to sentiment, and we are all glad to see the splendid manifestation of it that Canada has shown. But I say there is a gospel of commerce. Commerce tends to civilization, progress and prosperity, and is the life and soul of any country. If the commerce of England goes down, the Empire will, as a whole, suffer in consequence. Would the ideal be attained by each going our own way? It is only to be obtained by unitedness as an Empire. We must either hang together or separately. (Laughter). England has been engaged the last few years in opening doors. It cost \$1,250,000,000 and many thousands of lives to get the open door in South Africa. I want to know whether the English people and Canadians are willing to open such a door, at such a cost, and allow people from the ends of the earth to go into it without any contribution. What does America do when she opens a door? She immediately puts a walled tariff round as in the case of Cuba and the Philippines.

I should like to say a word or two with regard to America and Canada. America has got her—(a voice, "United States")—eye up on Canada at the present time, and I believe Canada will sooner or later fall into her arms. ("No, no.") Well, that may be, I am very glad to hear now that she will not, but still I believe they are prepared to make overtures to Canada in a short time. If there were a rapprochement between the United States and Canada, what would happen? These two countries, the great grain producing countries of the globe, would have the control of the grain supply of the world in their own hands. Would that be a good thing for England or Canada? ("No.") Shortly before coming to an untimely end, President McKinley made a speech with reference to England, and he was so impressed with the benefits that the United States received from England that he said the time was coming when the United States should make some reciprocity to England. That was his mind. Supposing the United States should try to make a preferential tariff with the United Kingdom and accomplish it, what would be the effect on Canada? It would deprive Canada of one of her chief markets. I do not

say it is possible, but it may be within the bounds of possibility, and what we have to do is to take care in the event of anything of that kind to make a bargain between England and Canada. Well, now, I will close in about one minute, the bell has been rung. Sir William Holland spoke about the cream of the Old Country. I do not think that we want the cream of England to come to Canada. It is all very well for a fair sample of it to come, but I do not think that we want the cream to come and leave the dregs to us. What we want is a tariff arrangement between our country and yours, so as to bring about what I consider will be one of the greatest consummations that we can possibly attain, and that is the solidification and unification of the Empire. I think that this issue will tend to that, and what I want, what I am laboring for. ....

(At this point the bell was rung).

THE PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, I will call upon Mr. Irving, of Vancouver.

MR. HENRY BELL IRVING (Vancouver Board of Trade): My Lord and Gentlemen: After listening to the eloquent words which we heard yesterday from the mover of this resolution, words which deservedly evoked enthusiasm from all parts of this hall, and after listening to the most able and moderate speech by the representative from Manchester and the equally eloquent speaker who have followed, I feel that anything I may add to this discussion must necessarily be paltry indeed, but I crave your consideration on one ground alone. It is a short distance between Leeds and Manchester, but we have seen what a vast difference of opinion prevails. The presence here of British Columbia representatives demonstrates this fact that throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion, commercial Canada speaks out on this great imperial question with one united voice. (Applause).

A DELEGATE: My Lord, I would rise to a point of order, I think the gentlemen has made a mistake with regard to the speaker, there has been no gentleman representing the Leeds Chamber of Commerce.

MR. IRVING: I beg your pardon, Bristol I mean. Just one point before I go further. It appeared to me that the seconder of this resolution desires to read into the latter part of it a different meaning from that which was understood by others. As a member of the Canadian committee, I may say, that the guiding principles adhered to by them was this, that the wording of that resolution should be as clear as the English language could make it—that this Congress should be asked to say "Yea, or nay" on this great Imperial question. The seconder also suggested that the word "thus" was a typographical error. I wish to confirm what was said by the representative of Winnipeg, that it was no error. On the contrary, the Canadian committee was of opinion that it was of the very greatest importance to have that word, and Canadians will on no account submit to its being deleted from the resolution. Sir William Holland, asked if Canadian farmers should not be content with being placed on an equal footing with the British farmers. I would like to ask if he considers that England has done its duty by the British farmers. (Hear, hear). The representative of Manchester has predicted the ruin of Canadian industry if free trade is abandoned in England. Is it not a fact that protectionist United States is actually competing with Manchester in neutral markets? (Hear, hear).

A few years ago in British Columbia we used nothing but British Portland cement, and a few days before I left there were three vessels arrived in British Columbia with Portland cement, but it was not British Portland cement, it was German. How then does free trade come in there? Far from losing our foreign trade, I believe that the policy advocated by this

resolution will be the means of vastly increasing it. Sir William has asked our sympathy for the hungry millions in the United Kingdom who would suffer by the abandonment of free trade, but have we not been told on the very best authority that these hungry millions exist there now? Is the comparison of the condition of the workingmen in the United Kingdom and protectionist United States and Canada entirely in favor of the Britisher. I think not. (Hear, hear).

We here in Canada have been educated in tariff matters at the hands of a powerful and masterful instructor not far off, and we know something of the rules of the game and have had some of the hard knocks. (Laughter).

Since the repeal of the corn laws, there has probably been no question submitted for the discussion and consideration of British subjects of anything like the importance of this question before us. The influence of free trade has been heavy. Agriculture in Great Britain has been ruined. Ireland has been partially depopulated.

THE CHAIRMAN, interrupting: I am very sorry to have to interrupt you, but there are fifty-five speakers and it has been resolved to come to a vote before luncheon to-morrow, in order that the other business may be dealt with in the afternoon, and I am informed that there is a general feeling amongst the Canadian representatives to limit the time of each speaker to five minutes.

A DELEGATE: I think five minutes too little altogether for a speaker.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have stated that it was intimated to me that there was a general feeling amongst the Canadian members of this Congress, that the rule with regard to the length of time for the speakers should be reconsidered with a view of reducing it to five minutes. I have not put it to the meeting, but there was an intimation to me to that effect.

MR. IRVING: I have travelled, gentlemen, 3,000 miles to support this resolution, and at a time when I was particularly busy.

A DELEGATE: So have we come the same distance about.

MR. IRVING: Gentlemen, I believe it has become an Imperial duty that we should become self-sustaining as an Empire. Within the Empire all the necessary food might be produced and there is no reason why we should not be equally self-sustaining and as independent as other countries, as the United States for that matter, if the Mother Country will only give us a chance. That is the birthright of every Briton, though denied to him in free trade—that the results of his labor should have a preference within his own Empire over the labor of aliens.

A crisis in the history of the Empire has arrived. Will the Mother Country rise to the occasion, or will she let slip an opportunity which may never occur again? (Hear, hear). We await the decision with anxiety, but we hope that with a united Empire under preferential trade, we may confidently look forward to a prosperous and glorious future. (Cheers). And every Britisher and every man will feel that it is a good thing to be a British subject. On behalf of the Vancouver Chamber, I enthusiastically support the policy of preferential trade, believing that by it alone may the future prosperity, progress and unity of the Empire be secured and promoted. (Cheers).

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Helm, of Manchester.

MR. ELIJAH HELM (Manchester Chamber): My Lord: In the two most remarkable speeches which opened this Congress, there were two striking,

and it appears to me, exceedingly weighty statements made. Lord Strathcona said that the subject which we had before us ought to be well and carefully considered in every aspect, and you, My Lord President, said that the subject is one too serious for a leap in the dark. (Hear, hear).

Now, I happen to be at the centre—and I may say at the intellectual centre, the intelligent centre (Voices, "Oh, oh,"—will you let me finish my sentence gentlemen? (Hear, hear). I say I happen to be at the intelligent centre of probably the largest manufacturing district in the world. (Hear, hear). A great deal of light comes to me from many sides which cannot be obtained from books, but from men who are in the heat and strife of industries and commerce. I think I could probably contribute best to this discussion, by taking up one or two points upon which I am able from these sources to throw some light. One of the difficulties in carrying out the proposed policy in the United Kingdom, I may give you as a specimen: One of the products which we receive in greatly increasing quantities—and I am thankful for it—from Canada, and from Australia, is dairy products. More and more of your butter is coming. We are also receiving very large quantities of excellent butter and cheese from Denmark and Holland. Now, gentlemen, to carry out the policy which you desire us to carry out we shall be placed in the following position: Denmark and Holland together, including Danish colonies in the east, take very large quantities of our manufactures. I think I am not far from the mark when I say that these two countries and their colonies in the east take of cotton goods alone, including all kinds, probably four millions pounds sterling a year. Now these countries impose import duties on a few only of our manufactures, but the duty in no case exceeds five per cent. (Hear, hear). And this policy requires us to go to these countries and say: "We are going to place a duty upon your butter and cheese in order that we may favor imports from our colonies which impose from 23 to 30 per cent. duty." (Hear, hear). Remember now, gentlemen, that I am speaking simply from our own point of view, and I want to show you the difficulty in which we should land ourselves—and this is only one of a score of instances I could give you—the difficulty in which we should land ourselves with those countries. If you were a Dutchman, or a Dane, what would you say if Great Britain—this great market that we have there—were to impose duties against your products in favor of colonies which charge from 23 to 30 per cent. upon British manufactures, whilst they themselves only charge five per cent.? (Applause). It is necessary that this point should be brought forward, is it not? (Voices: "Yes, yes"). We all want to search the thing to the bottom, and I am mentioning these things in pursuance of the recommendation which was given to us by Lord Strathcona that these things should be carefully considered in every respect. (Hear, hear).

Well, now, gentlemen, another point. Mr. Cockshutt spoke of the hundred millions sterling worth of manufactures which we import into the United Kingdom, and he said it was to the destruction of the British workmen. Now, it may surprise you to hear that the great bulk of that hundred millions sterling is not finished product—(hear, hear)—but is the raw material, or accessory product of other industries, and it is a fact that during the three years ending 1902—the last full year for which we have returns—that in those three years we imported more of those foreign manufactures than ever, and yet those three years were the most remarkable that we have ever had with respect to the low rate of unemployed among our workmen. They were remark-

able for being the largest three years in which the largest amount of railway traffic occurred—the most remarkable for the extent of our bankers' clearing-house returns. We were engaged in those years continuously, for there were no big strikes, and there was very little stoppage of machinery of any kind—in fact, we never were so busy as in those three years. (Hear, hear). And during that period we imported more manufactures than we ever did in any other like period.

A VOICE: What about the war?

MR. HELM: The war certainly did stimulate some industries, but I am speaking now—and I say it is astonishing how little it did for the average industry of the country. I am sure that the war did not in any way stimulate the cotton industry; but, war or no war, my point is this—our friends say that those hundred millions sterling are the destruction of the workmen; I say my point is this, that in the years when the workmen were busiest and earning the highest wages, when products were largest, when accumulations were greatest—I say in those years, we imported more manufactures than at any other time. (Applause).

I, for one, gentlemen, say that to be able to purchase even what are called manufactures, which can be used for further industry—to be able to import them at the lowest prices that the world offers; in other words to be the dumping ground of the world at cheap prices for everything that is good and useful, is one of the sources of our prosperity. I am sorry that I cannot further enlarge upon this, but I will put in one word what I would like to say. I have been a profound, continuous, sincere and unbiased student with unrivalled opportunities of looking into details of these matters, and I do assure you without any kind of bias whatever, that if you should interfere with the system of our being able to purchase that which is good and cheap anywhere in the world, it would be the signal for the arresting of the progress if not the decay of British industry. (Applause, and cries of "No, no").

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Graham of Belleville.

MR. ROBERT J. GRAHAM (Mayor of Belleville, Ont.): My Lord and gentlemen: Those of you who have looked over the agenda, know that Belleville occupies a somewhat important position in connection with the agenda, and among them is a resolution on this question. I desire to say in the beginning that Belleville district has been settled by a class of people known as U. E. Loyalists, people who left their homes in the United States and came over to Canada, in order that they might live under the British flag. We are intensely loyal, and you will notice from the resolutions that we have put upon the agenda, we look upon some matters in a manner which differs materially from our neighbors in Canada. We have had on that agenda a resolution in regard to free trade within the Empire. We have agreed to withdraw that resolution in order to harmonize the views of the Canadian section, but on the distinct understanding that we should have an opportunity upon this platform of stating our views upon this question.

We are in the firm of John Bull & Co., or rather John Bull & Sons. I regret to say that the eldest son of the firm has left the company of his father and has to-day set up in business for himself, a very strong competition to the old gentleman. (Laughter). But we are the second son, and we hope to be able to continue in business with the old gentleman and remain with him throughout the entire time to come. We hope that all the family will remain together with him, and that we will stand together as an

Empire and not depart as did our neighbors to the south. (Hear, hear). Our motto is: "free trade within the Empire; protection against the world." (Applause). What are the objections? And what will be the benefits to the Empire? Better market for British manufactures, unity of Empire, better market for colonial products, better times for everybody, less friction over commercial relations, less risk of losing colonies, less loss of commerce to foreign countries, less loss in balance of trade. What are the objections? Colonial loss of revenue, colonial loss to manufacturers, increase in value of food products.

Let us solve these problems: "Is the unification of the Empire necessary? Is the time now ripe for action? Who pays the present bills of the Empire? Can other nations be made to contribute? Could we tax the product of other countries sufficient to meet our financial needs? Is the British market necessary for the surplus produce of foreign countries? Can the colonial manufacturers live with free British competition? Can the British consumer afford to pay more for his food, and will it be necessary to do so? Can the financial requirements of the colonies be met with this system? Will the present colonies always remain loyal to the Crown under the present system? Are we as a nation getting richer or poorer? Can the balance of trade be turned in our favor?"

How may these difficulties be met? It has been stated by one of the speakers this afternoon that free trade within the Empire is a desirable thing, and so it is, if it could be made practicable. But can it be made practicable? I fear that under our present system of government, free trade within the Empire is practically impossible. I have a suggestion—I don't know whether it will recommend itself to you or not, and that is, that these difficulties should be met by pooling all customs receipts, by maintaining the army and navy out of the general funds of the Empire, by granting each colony an annual subsidy from customs receipts, sufficient for needs and the proper development of their resources, by permitting each colony to govern themselves as at present in all matters, same customs and foreign relations, by colonial representation in British Parliament in matters relating to colonial interests. By encouraging emigration to the colonies only, by investment of our surplus wealth in developing the resources of our Empire only, by producing in the colonies sufficient food products to meet the requirements of the Empire in time of war.

If these can be accomplished why not begin now and petition the British Parliament to at once call a conference of representatives of the various interests concerned to work out a plan to bring it into effect. Let us try at this great Congress and see if we cannot take the first step towards the realization of this thing, and then gentlemen, through the future we shall stand shoulder to shoulder and present a solid front against all those countries who are outside of and inimical to the interests of the British Empire. (Applause).

MR. O. E. BODINGTON (British Chamber of Commerce, Paris): Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: I desire to preface my remarks by calling your attention for a moment to the special position which I occupy as President of the British Chamber of Commerce established, if I may figuratively say so, in *partibus infidelium*; I mean on foreign territory in a country which has adopted a rigid protective tariff, with which we are having constant difficulties every day, and I should like you in the course of my remarks to be good enough to bear that in mind. When I crossed the ocean in the Bavarian, I crossed with 56 of my co-delegates, all jolly good fellows and all extremely anxious to discuss fiscal policy. I had come over the ocean partly for rest, and I endeavored, and was

fairly successful in the endeavor, to dodge the discussion. I think some of them, excellent fellows as they are, have made themselves the accomplices of others, equally excellent fellows, to dodge—I will not say the discussion, but the issue in the resolution. There was one name which resounded day after day from end to end of the ship, and that name was the name of Chamberlain. (Applause). I observe with great regret that there is no mention of that name or Chamberlain's policy in the terms of the resolution.

SEVERAL DELEGATES: Certainly not.

ANOTHER DELEGATE: Quite right, no politics.

MR. BODINGTON: What does the resolution mean? I rubbed my eyes when I got it, for I could not make it out. It seemed to me to be a milk and water sort of resolution, Toronto milk diluted with London water, platonic, and I was reminded of a phrase of my French fellow-citizens which seems to me a description, answering admirably the text of the resolution. Now, gentlemen, to talk seriously, what has happened? A responsible minister of the Crown has enunciated a policy which, at all events, is definite in that it purports to commit the United Kingdom to an abandonment of free trade. What has the resolution to say of that policy? Not a word. It talks vaguely of mutual benefit. Well, gentlemen, as I understand the British Empire, it has been, and always has been admitted of recent years to be, the greatest mutual benefit society the world has ever seen, and we do not need to come thousands of miles to this hall to re-affirm that truism. We in Paris, want something more than that. I will tell you the reason. The text of this resolution will be read by the German Minister of Commerce, by the French Minister of Commerce and by the ministers of commerce of every country in the world, but they will not hear this discussion, and if the resolution does not reflect the discussion what will happen? This. The French Minister of Commerce, and I can see him do it, will heave a sigh of relief and say that Chamberlain's policy was only a bogey, a scare, and that the most intelligent body of business men that ever got together was afraid to tackle it, afraid to mention it in their resolutions. That is what the French Minister of Commerce will say. Is it conceivable, I say, that a body so important as this, has nothing more definite to give to the world, when every portion of this world is waiting to see what we have to say, not about mutual benefit, but about the policy of the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain? Now, I am in a difficulty, because our chamber is most strongly in favor of that policy, and the resolution,—although it is so colorless that it does not go half far enough for us—I will have to support it. I would have liked to move an amendment, but it appears that we are bound down to the resolution carefully framed in the committee for discussion, and which seems to be as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. I doubt the wisdom of that, but we cannot go back on it. I say it is a pity this great assembly should have shirked what I consider to be a great issue. I am all in favor of unanimity, but we do not want to publish unanimous platitudes to the world. Harmony is all very well, but you want a keynote, and that keynote, I repeat, is the policy enunciated by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. We are more in contact than most of you with the opinions of foreign nations. I believe this bloodless resolution will cause disappointment in many quarters of the Empire. I believe in France, at all events, it will hold us up to nothing less than ridicule. I confess it has puzzled me very much why, for example, the resolution of the Vancouver Board of Trade was not incorporated in this. I observe that eight out of the twelve Boards of Trade have faced the problem, but in the compromise resolution, the result of all



these long hours of deliberation, we find no reference to it at all. If I could move an amendment, I would like it to be in the direction of the suppression of the words "mutual benefit," and the insertion in their place of the Vancouver phrase "by preferential duties or otherwise," but I do not propose that for the reasons I have already stated. (Applause).

MR. F. J. USHER (Dublin Chamber of Commerce): My Lord President and Gentlemen: I stand here as the representative of the Chamber of Commerce of Dublin, and I do not stand here to express myself in any trade interest, nor any local interest in connection with trade in regard to Ireland. A great deal has been said here in regard to free trade, or so-called free trade, but let me give you an idea of its effects in Ireland as shown by a few figures which I will merely run over. The population of Ireland prior to the passing of the free trade act, represented at that time eight million people. The population now is reduced to four million five hundred thousand. Immediately after the passing of the corn laws, not only did the population of Ireland decline, but steadily the value of land and agriculture has decreased to a very great extent. Farmers could not live, nor were they able to pay their rents. In England also the value of land was reduced to a great extent, and many gentlemen here are aware that agricultural land in England is going out of cultivation. Of course it has been said by Colonel Denison that we ought to grow all we can in our own country, and that that country does not produce one-sixth of the grain and foodstuff required for the population. Well, of course, that is a very sad state of affairs. Some reference has been made with regard to the importation of merchandise into England, I think it was by Sir William Holland, who said that manufactured goods were introduced into England last year to the extent of one hundred million pounds. That means the displacement of British labor to the extent of at least sixty million pounds. Of course I am altogether Irish, (laughter) but I side with the English in this matter, and as a representative of Dublin, I may tell you that I voice the opinions of the whole population of Ireland, so far as I know, from north to south. (Applause). What was the result of the displacement during the past year of this sixty million money in British labor?

So, has been made to the subject of paupers. I may correct to some extent the figures given by the gentlemen who referred to it. The population of England and Wales is 32,500,000, of whom 774,000 are paupers or 2.40 per cent. Scotland is not so bad, the paupers there being 2.20 per cent. Ireland is the best of all, her paupers numbering only 2 per cent. (Hear, hear). So that we have a total of nine hundred and sixty-eight thousand paupers who cost us £26,000,000 to provide for. That means to a very great extent a displacement of British labor that should be preserved and maintained. We, as representatives from all parts of the globe, represent four hundred and forty-four millions of British subjects, and we have a right to protect them as best we can. (Hear, hear).

A great deal has been said with regard to the Americans and how they take care of themselves. Of course the Americans occasionally refer to the Monroe doctrine, and that means "All Europe; hands off." They have secured something like 30,000,000 of population in the last few years. The effect of the American system is that British merchandise is kept out and they reserve their market for themselves. America has prospered under protection. So have France and Germany. There are no poor-houses in the United States. We, as a benevolent people, support their poor as well as our own.

Another matter which has been referred to is the posi-

tion of Manchester and its manufactures. We have very little manufacturing in Ireland; we have no cotton, but there is linen and a great deal of shipping. When you want really good ships for the wide world, the Atlantic greyhounds of the world, you go to Belfast. (Applause). Well, as to Manchester it has been truly called the great cotton district of England. By all means get all the cotton you can and employ all the labor you can and give the labor to British workmen. We get a great deal of cotton textile from America. They come in free of duty, but where Manchester has a surplus of cotton goods which she wants to sell to the United States, she is met by a duty of 51.91 per cent., practically 55 per cent.

It is very difficult to get Englishmen to-day to look carefully into these things and to consider their position.

Of course, as I have said, we are a very benevolent people. We had a great war in South Africa in which the blood of thousands of our fellow subjects flowed almost in the one stream. It cost thirty thousand men lost in South Africa, and it cost over £200,000,000 with something like £30,000,000 in addition for the purposes of recovering and resuscitating trade in South Africa. What are the results? We have thrown South Africa open to the world for any man to go and trade in that country without hindrance. (Applause).

The Germans have talked about retaliation. They have threatened to retaliate and if 444,000,000 of British subjects are to be intimidated by 56,000,000 of Germans, I don't understand it. (Laughter).

Now, in supporting this resolution, I think it might be amended. I do not offer this amendment in opposition, but merely as a suggestion.

It is hereby resolved, "That this great Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, assembled in Montreal, is of opinion that the time has arrived for an adjustment of the fiscal conditions existing between Great Britain and her colonies, and possessions beyond the seas, on the principle of preferential treatment to the component parts of the Empire, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Premier of England; the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary; the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada; the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona, High Commissioner for Canada; the Right Hon. the Earl of Minto, Governor-General of Canada, with the object of having said fiscal matters duly considered and adjusted."

The close of Mr. Usher's remarks was greeted with great applause.

MR. COCKSHUTT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest to you that you should now close this debate. It is now half past five, and the audience seems to be in good humor and I feel it would be a good time to close. (Cries of "No, no.")

LORD BRASSEY: There seems to be a general disposition to go on. I am entirely in the hands of the meeting.

A NUMBER OF VOICES: "Go on, go on."

MR. EWING MATHESON (Leeds Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): I am here as one of the representatives of the city of Leeds, which has a greater population than that of the city of Montreal, and I hope that you will listen to a few remarks that I wish to make. Leeds is engaged in manufactures of diverse kinds, and is in a position different, probably, to any city in the world. Like Manchester, which is the centre of the cotton trade, and Bradford, which is the centre of the woollen trade, we have at Leeds five or six great staple trades, and it is to us all-important we should not only have our food unrestricted, but also raw materials and half-finished products. Therefore, we looked with very great care to these resolutions. All of them were considered by our Chamber several times, and, while giving the fullest attention to any proposals from Canada, we are not to agree to any preconceived conditions. The original resolutions printed in this

paper distinctly asked for preferential treatment; but we say that must be the result, and not the beginning, of the great inquiry we are all anxious to promote. We shall not be backward in coming forward and supporting anything which may be of benefit to the Empire, but we are far from supporting anything which may presuppose preferential treatment. We want to have an inquiry, and while we, in Leeds, are willing to sink some points and are willing to vote for the resolution as moved by Sir William Holland, I appeal to the Canadians here to help us. We wish to be with you, but we have to take action in consideration of the very diverse trades in our city. I do not think I am asking too much of you in making that request.

Canada is so rich, and the influx of immigrants into the Dominion is so great, that she is becoming a more important place every year, and we wish her God-speed. If you will grant what we ask, and help us to unanimity by allowing this slight amendment, which many people say means nothing, it will pave the way to enable us to agree with you. You have got the majority here, I can see it in this hall, and surely the resolution will carry greater weight in Europe if passed unanimously, and I ask you to help us to make it so.

MR. J. W. JOHNSON (Belleville Board of Trade) This has been a great debate; infinitely better than the resolution we are debating. If I were giving a straight vote on the question, I would vote straight on the proposal of Mr. Chamberlain to give preferential trade in the Empire. When Sir William Holland opened the debate, he reminded me of the position of St. Paul before Agrippa, for he almost persuaded me to be a—we are all Christians—he almost persuaded me to be a free trader. But, it was the voice of the siren. His diction and the splendid spirit of his address was something we could desire, but to me it was devoid of the arguments necessary to carry to completion the consolidation of the commercial interests of the Empire.

No matter what the result of this convention may be, I can say that Canada's national aspirations are all in one direction. We shall remain subject to the King, and shall remain within the Empire, and keep our Dominion one of the nations that make up the British Empire, and we shall continue loyal to the old flag, no matter what the result may be, every time. During the war in South Africa the flag was run up at half-mast throughout Great Britain, Scotland and Ireland, and in this country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, our flag, that flag which is ours by inheritance as well as by choice, was at half-mast, because Canadian boys were fighting for the maintenance of the rights of British subjects in far away Africa, and wherever was needed the service of the sons of Canada, we could not restrain them; they would be side by side and shoulder to shoulder with the men from the British Isles.

It seems to me that the crux of this whole matter, coming down to the actual facts, is based on the question of the duties. We have had experience of this matter in Canada, in the part of Ontario where I come from. We live right on the north shore of Lake Ontario, and right across is the city of Oswego, in the State of New York. Ten years ago a very large trade was done in barley between Ontario and New York, and I say here deliberately, and challenge any gentleman here to dispute what I state, every time a Canadian exported a bushel of barley to the United States, the Canadian paid the duty. And why? The proposition is this, that wherever the price, the market price, is fixed, you have got to pay whatever toll or charges are demanded in order to reach that market, so that a man sending barley from the province of Ontario to the State of New York had not only to pay the freight upon it, but also had to

pay ten cents a bushel duty, and when the Canadian came there he had the proceeds of his twenty thousand bushels of barley at say seventy cents, but he had to pay to the American Government ten cents a bushel upon that 20,000 bushels of barley, while the American farmer can now grow the same grain and sell it at just the same price and he would have seventy cents a bushel for it while the Canadian would have only sixty. I contend that if the market price is fixed, as it is fixed in England, it is not the consumer who will pay the difference, but it is the shipper.

Now, there is just another point that I want to allude to. In 1846, the conditions that prevailed in England made it absolutely necessary that you should have free trade. You had in England in those days—you had freedom, you could sell, but you did not have freedom to buy. Then, a change in the fiscal policy was brought about and free trade was brought in and you now have a freedom to buy, but you have not a freedom to sell. (Hear, hear). And now you want to bring about a change so that you will have that freedom.

What did Lord Macaulay say when he was discussing that matter in 1845. I will just read to you a part of his speech. In a speech delivered at Edinburgh on the 2nd December, 1845, Lord Macaulay said, "Make what laws we will, we must be dependent on other countries for a large part of our food—go beyond the Ohio and you will see the vast harvests of wheat waving round the black stumps of what a few months ago was a pathless forest. Most gladly would the grower of that wheat exchange it for a Sheffield knife, a Birmingham spoon, a warm coat of Leeds woollen cloth, or light dress of Manchester cotton." Well, gentlemen, you still get your requirements of grain from foreign countries. In the days of Lord Macaulay he only saw the possibility of feeding the English people from the valley of the Ohio, but the statesmen of to-day, see the possibility of feeding the English people from the wheat belts of Alberta and Saskatchewan and from the fertile valleys of the older provinces of Canada. This was not done in the days of the old pioneer, but to-day, does the grower of that wheat buy his knives from Sheffield, or his spoons from Birmingham, or his warm coat from the manufacturers of Leeds, or his cotton from Manchester? No, he does not do that. He buys them from the manufacturers of his own land. And those manufacturers have been created and perpetuated by a system of protection.

Now then, gentlemen, if that be the case and conditions are changed completely, why not do as we ought to do and as we do on this continent, adapt ourselves to existing circumstances. (Hear, hear). Gentlemen, we are as much identified with you as you are with us. You are the custodians of what has come down to us from our forefathers, the British patrimony. We are just as much concerned in it as you are. You are custodians of the family jewels, but we are also part owners of the family jewels, and it behooves you of the old land as it behooves us of the new land to co-operate and hand this great Empire of ours down to our sons and daughters a credit to the world. I will add to what has been said quoting from an American poet in which he spoke about the building of a ship, and it is well that we should hear it. We in Canada sometimes allude to it.

"We know what masters laid thy keel,  
What workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,  
Who made each mast and sail and rope,  
What anvils rang,—what hammers beat—  
In what forge and what a heat,  
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope."

Applause.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Patterson of Glasgow.

**MR. JOHN PATTERSON (Glasgow Chamber):** As I am to be the next speaker I move the adjournment. I am physically unable to say what I have to say, and it would take us past six o'clock before I would be through, and unless I can have the privilege of saying what I have to say in the morning I would rather not speak.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** You would rather not speak to-night.

**MR. WARD LAYLE (London Timber Trade Federation):** Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I will ask you to descend a little from the consideration of the effect this question will have upon the whole world; to the effect that it may have upon a particular trade, because, after all, we Chambers of Commerce, representing the different countries are concerned with what effect it will have upon our own trade.

I have the honor of representing the Timber Trade Federation of the United Kingdom, in conjunction with my colleague, your present chairman to whose speech I listened with great delight yesterday, and with whom I am entirely in accord.

But, I would like to say a few words in addition on the resolution before the meeting on behalf of the Timber Trades Federation. The timber trade is a considerable item I believe in the Canadian trade. Now, the resolution asks for the adoption of a commercial policy based upon the principle of mutual benefit. This of course, every business man approves of—every man with a head on him must approve of. Why, it is the very foundation of all business without which any business can have but a very short life. But, the resolution proceeds to say, "Whereby each component part of the Empire shall receive a substantial advantage in trade as the result of its National relationship." Well, gentlemen, I must tell you the way this is looked upon by the Timber Trades Federation of the United Kingdom.

Early as last year, when it was rumored that the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, contemplated a tax upon timber, a meeting of the Federation was held to consider the case, and it was resolved unanimously, "That the Federation deprecates strongly any tax being placed upon timber being imported into the United Kingdom." The resolution was sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and sir, that remains the policy of the Timber Trade Federation to-day.

It is not entirely the tax or the imposition of the money that we object to, but it is the harassing of the trade, the trouble of putting a duty upon timber and collecting it—the putting of the duty or tax upon

timber imported into the United Kingdom from other countries would not benefit Canada one little bit. How would it benefit the Canadian spruce manufacturer for us to put a tax upon the pitch pines of the United States? How would it benefit the producer of Canadian pine for us to put a tax upon the timber of another country? Why, the taxes are so dissimilar that it would not help Canada a little bit while it would inflict a burden on the consumer in the United Kingdom.

Now, with the second part of the resolution calling for a special commission to consider means for increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire, I am thoroughly in accord.

Perhaps our Canadian friends, the lumber manufacturers, will permit me to say that one important way of increasing and strengthening the trade in timber would be to somewhat improve the accuracy in cutting and manufacture of the spruce deals and boards and to use more care in the grading of pine deals which has lately given great dissatisfaction to buyers in the United Kingdom.

I have had handed to me by the members of our Federation, very strong representations on this subject, but I will not inflict these upon this meeting, feeling sure that the hint I have given will be quite sufficient and will be well received by them as coming from the buyers and customers of the Canadian producers.

On the general question I do not propose to add anything to what has been so eloquently stated on both sides of the question, but so far as it has gone up to the present time it reminds me of something that is reported by an enthusiastic politician—I believe it is in Ireland where so many good things are said in a jocular way. He concluded a very eloquent speech with this remark:—"Mr. Chairman, I will conclude that if this great political party is to maintain its present position, it must be moved forward." Well if you will allow me to use a similar Hibernianism to express my opinion, I would say that if this great nation and this great portion of it—Canada—is to maintain that progress and that advancement that it has made, and which our noble chairman in his opening speech so pointedly put before us,—I say if you wish to continue the progress you have made, you must stand just where you are on the matter of free trade upon raw materials and food supply. (Applause.)

The Congress then adjourned until to-morrow (Thursday) morning.

## FOURTH DAY—THURSDAY, AUGUST 20th, 1903.

The Congress met at 9.30 a.m. with Mr. S. P. Boulton, London, in the Chair.

### BUSINESS OF THE CONGRESS.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Gentlemen, I understand Mr. Dillon has a motion to propose. I would ask him to read it so we will know whether we can accept it.

**MR. R. H. DILLON (St. Mary's, Ont.):** Mr. Chairman: The resolution which I have to offer is as follows:

"That in the opinion of this Congress it is desirable that the debate on trade relations should close this morning, and with a view to this it is resolved: First, that Chambers of Commerce who have not yet been heard through one or more of their delegates, be heard first, the speaking to be limited to one from each body to be chosen by themselves; second, but should any others desire to be heard after, that they be allowed five minutes; third, that the latter arrangement is also conditional on ten minutes being allowed to the mover of the resolution and the amendment to sum up the arguments."

**MR. ROBERT BICKERDIKE, M.P. (Montreal):** Before

you call the orders of the day, Mr. Chairman, I want to suggest that the question on page 31 regarding the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain might be taken up during the lunch hour. I have suggested the matter to His Lordship and he is quite agreeable. There are very few interested in it, and it was thought that we might dispose of it during the lunch hour.

**MR. DILLON:** For the benefit of one or two who desire to know what you are going to do with that resolution of mine, would you just explain it, Mr. Chairman. The resolution was dealt with later.

### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY, HER COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** I will now call upon Mr. Davis, of Bristol, to continue the debate on preferential trade.

**MR. GEORGE E. DAVIS (Bristol Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping):** Mr. Chairman and



gentlemen: As representing the Bristol Chamber, the Chamber which is most closely in touch with Canadian sentiment and Canadian commerce, I am glad that we can very heartily and cordially support the resolution as it is before the Congress at present. We are not allowed by our Chamber to vote for any policy involving a preferential tariff, or any other definite policy, but the whole of our members are very heartily agreed that it is desirable to extend as far as possible the trade relations between England and the colonies, and because we believe the resolution would have this effect I am glad to support it. But, while that is the position taken by the Chamber, as individual members we can express our opinions. Speaking for myself I may say,—though I should be unwilling to sanction any tariff which would raise the price of food to any appreciable extent in Great Britain—that I have come to the conclusion that a system of preferential trade such as proposed by Canada and endorsed by this Congress, would not have that effect and would not raise the price of bread to any extent. (Applause). That is the view of the delegates from this Chamber. Mr. Walton and Sir William Holland yesterday suggested that if any policy other than free trade were adopted in relation to the colonies, we might expect to see injured trade and unemployed workmen. The answer to that is that we do not find that condition in protected countries, and, what is more, if I have interpreted aright Canadian sentiment since I have arrived in this country, Canada has declared, and declared frequently, that they have no desire that a preferential tariff be adopted unless it is for the advantage of England and her colonies. (Hear, hear). And, sir, I believe such a tariff may be of considerable mutual advantage. We have had it said from this platform that the shilling a quarter put on wheat a little while ago hardly affected the price of bread. If under a preferential tariff you will have a free market, as you would, it would have a still further effect in preventing the consumer in Great Britain from feeling any small increase arising from the imposition of a duty. And in this regard let me point out that some people speak of a duty as if it was money drawn from the people and thrown into the sea; but I think we have to remember and I don't think the point has been mentioned up to now, that money received by the Government in payment of duty, remains the property of the nation. It is used for public purposes and is not thrown away. (Hear, hear).

Now, sir, it is to be remembered that our exports of manufactured goods to foreign countries are declining. They have fallen from £197,000,000 in 1900 to £174,000,000 in 1902. That is to say, that our manufactured goods are being more and more shut out from foreign markets by the action of foreign protective tariffs. On the other hand we have seen that there is a considerable rise in the exports to British Possessions. The rise is not as great as we would like to see it, but nevertheless it is a substantial one, having risen from £94,000,000 in 1900 to £109,000,000 in 1902. Sir William Holland pointed out that there had been a decrease of exports from Great Britain to Canada during the last twenty years. The most powerful argument to my mind in favor of a preferential tariff is afforded by reference to Canadian imports from Great Britain. When the preferential tariff came into force not only was the gradual decrease arrested, but the imports of Canada from Great Britain have increased since 1897 from six million pounds sterling to ten million pounds sterling. The exports of Canada to Great Britain have also greatly increased since that time (applause), and that I think is the very strongest reason why we should recommend a preferential tariff between England and her colonies because it would be of advantage not only to Canada, but also to the English manufacturer.

And then let us remember that not only has this preference had a very remarkable effect on the ratio of trade with Canada, but Canada has gone further and at the conference of Premiers, the representatives of Canada said they would recommend further reductions if England would show herself willing to do something in return and to meet them in a friendly spirit and in a reasonable way. (Applause). The increase of trade with Canada is a most valuable trade to the Mother Country because we do not export here our coal and raw material as we do to many foreign countries, but it is a trade in textile goods and manufactures of iron and steel, employing a very large percentage of labor and therefore all the more valuable to the country exporting it. I know it has been pointed out that although we have increased trade with Canada to this considerable extent, that at the same time the trade of the United States with Canada has increased further still. But I would point out that the increase of exports of the United States to Canada are raw cotton, maize and coal, which are admitted here duty free and which are raw material, and which therefore do not compete to the same extent. And so the great fact we have to face is that while England is buying more and more from foreign nations she is selling less, and on the other hand the colonies are buying more from her, although our imports from them are not increasing.

We naturally are thinking here of how a preferential tariff would affect our relations with Canada, but we have to remember that there are other colonies interested and willing to give a preference. At the conference, the premiers of Australia and New Zealand offered a preference of from five to twenty per cent. The same policy has since been endorsed by that great meeting held in South Africa last—and that "if" stands in the way—if England will meet the colonies in a reasonable and sympathetic spirit. It is well to remember that a country lives not on merchandise or on mercantile transactions as so many people seem to think, but it lives on its manufactures. The reason for that is this, that whereas a merchant will pay about one per cent. of his turn over in wages, the manufacturer pays on the average forty per cent. of his turn over in wages.

Some people we find are fond of saying, and I have heard it said in this Congress, that English trade is increasing, and they prove this by adding together the imports and the exports of England in order to get at the total trade. It would be just as misleading and just as reasonable to add together our income and our expenditure as a measure of our wealth. (Hear, hear). It used to be said that you always pay for imports with exports. If this is true you would find some reasonable relation between the two, but you don't find it. What you find is that the imports are constantly increasing in a greater ratio than the exports. This means that the payment made from our manufactured goods and our investments are constantly growing greater and greater.

I have spoken of the economic side. Is there not a political side, political in the truest and best sense of the word? I have been impressed by the spirit of loyalty shown by the Canadians and by their desire to draw nearer and nearer to the Mother Country. I believe in the future of our race and the more closely England and the colonies can be drawn together, the better for her and for them, and now that the colonies so strongly desire the better relations involved in the preferential tariff, England should not hesitate to meet the wishes of her colonies. (Applause).

LORD BRASSEY: I would point out to the Congress that time is going on, and that there are other matters to come before it, and that for this and other reasons it is extremely desirable to deal with the reso-



lution regarding the fiscal policy before we adjourn for luncheon. There are many speakers, and we desire to hear as many as possible. I would like to persuade all the members to tell us the best of their thoughts if possible, in five minutes. I would urge that consideration on the speakers. I will now ask Mr. Patterson, representing Glasgow, to speak, and in succession to him I will call upon Mr. Peate, of Leeds. Would Mr. Dillon, in consideration of what I have submitted to the meeting, allow his resolution to remain in abeyance a little while?

MR. DILLON: Yes, My Lord.

MR. JOHN PATTERSON (Glasgow Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): As representing the city of Glasgow, the second city of the Empire, I may say that the Chamber of Commerce of that city were quite unanimous in passing a resolution to the effect that the subject we are now discussing is probably ripe for inquiry. I won't trouble you by reading the resolution, and I will cut short my few remarks. It seems to me, however, there is a very serious omission in the resolution which has been put before us. For years, but recently in a more acute form, the principal factor in the discussion of this question has been the adverse and high tariffs of foreign countries. There is practically no reference to this in the resolution. I think we ought now to demand clear and equitable treatment, to let those countries know we are on their trail, and if necessary, as in the case of the sugar bounties, to compel attention. A prominent member, the leader of the Opposition in the Austrian House of Representatives, said Great Britain was unable to conquer a handful of Boers, but in the case of the fiscal policy of Europe, she had beaten the whole of Europe. Perhaps we can do it again, and this time include the United States. I suggested to one of the committee that we would add this to the resolution and refer to the danger which has arisen to the British trade from the ever increasing hostile tariffs of other countries. I was told that if I introduced that resolution it would be a bone of contention, and was told to leave it out, although for my life I cannot see why it should be so. It would be useless, it would be folly, for us to suppose that nations, in arranging fiscal matters, allow friendship to have the slightest weight. Look at the United States, our "very dear friend and ally." We take more than half of all their exports, and for all these years we have been pouring into their country untold millions, by which they have been able to bring about their enormous prosperity, and in return we have the Dingley Bill, a high wall tariff, hedged around with harassing conditions, and making a fair and mutual trade impossible. Of course, from their standpoint they are quite right. They want everything. (Laughter), and sometimes, gentlemen, it looks as if they were going to get it. (Renewed laughter and "Hear, hear.")

Sir William Harcourt, in a recent speech, said that Mr. Chamberlain's policy of retaliation was too risky, as it would jeopardize our friendship with the United States. ("No, no.") Our greatest friend and most valued ally. It is inconceivable that such a statement could be made by any Statesman. But, gentlemen, the same statement was made here yesterday, on this very platform. ("Hear, hear"). I feel ashamed, I feel humiliated that any member of this Congress, standing upon Canadian soil, could give voice to such sentiments. Gentlemen, the United States has hammered us at every point. ("Hear, hear and applause"), has used every unfair means ("Hear, hear") to strangle us financially and to cut the very entrails out of our trade. ("Hear, hear"). And yet we are told, in the face of all that, that we must not retaliate, for fear of losing their friendship. What are we sunk

so low that we are afraid to hit back when we are badly struck. (Applause). That is the meaning of it. We can accept such sentiments from a Carnegie, but we cannot take them from a member of the British House of Commons. It is mischievous. The words of Sir William Holland will be copied into every newspaper in the United States, and I defy him to repeat them on the floor of the House.

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I shall be glad to repeat them on the floor of the House of Commons.

MR. PATTERSON: You will find your audience has no sympathy with you. (Cheers). Gentlemen, Sir William has his answer. I would like to ask if, when the United States were concocting their Dingley and McKinley bills, any Statesman ever hinted that such statutes would imperil the friendship of Great Britain. ("Hear, hear"). No, sir, such talk would not have been tolerated for one single moment, and anyone holding such views would have been branded as a traitor to the best interest of the trade of the Republic. We know from some points of view the United States is "a dear friend and ally." (Laughter). There is a door to open, they are always ready to give us every assistance, and in fact, have even asked to do a little fighting to get the door open. I don't deny, in a broad way, America is—(a voice: "United States")—to some extent, our friend, but in matters of trade and in their fiscal policy, the United States is our persistent and remorseless enemy—"hear, hear"—and I think it is time they were told so, and not, to use the words of Sir William Holland, ask them to believe that we place such weight upon their friendship that we will allow them to do what they like. ("Hear, hear").

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I would like to point out that that is misrepresenting what I said—I never said that they ought to be allowed to do what they liked. (Cries of "No" and applause).

MR. PATTERSON: Sir William Holland will no doubt have an opportunity of replying to what I have said. (Cries of "time," "no" and applause). I do not know whether these interruptions are in order or not, but they are taking two or three minutes off my time. I hope they are not for that purpose. (Laughter and cries of "no, no" and applause). Gentlemen, Mr. Balfour put the matter thus—and I want you to listen to it, because his words are words of wisdom and words of moderation, and are deserving of the careful attention of all. Mr. Balfour said: "We must have in our hands some fiscal weapon by which the policy against the British Empire can be resisted." Is that right or is it wrong? (Cries of "yes, that's right"). That is the one that we should get into these resolutions. Of course, we know the subject is encompassed with numerous difficulties, but the solution may be found. We know what we want, and let us see how we are to get there.

Now, I shall cut out something else which I had intended to say as my time is getting short, and I will only say in conclusion, let us at least have a fair game, and in considering this vital question we must look at it in a manly and independent and Statesman-like way. Don't pander to any people; let us fight our own fight and let us be actuated by the highest motives in the consideration of the Empire and the good and welfare of our own people all over the world. (Applause).

THE PRESIDENT: I will now call upon Mr. Peate, of Leeds.

MR. J. PEATE (Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Leeds): My Lord and Gentlemen: I may say that I come from one of the most important chambers in the West Riding of Yorkshire. I do not intend to speak generalities, but I would, as a preliminary, ex-

press the feeling that animates me, and that is my deep sympathy with our Canadian friends in the objects that they have in view. I believe that the right policy of both the colonies and the Mother Country, is the development of the resources within the bounds of our Empire. (Applause).

Now, I may say that for thirty years I have been identified with one of the oldest businesses in connection with our country, and that is the woollen trade, and I can say that that trade has been subjected to attack from our continental competitors during that entire period of time, and the object that they have had in view has undoubtedly been the destruction of the woollen trade of England. (Hear, hear).

Sir William Holland referred to the vulnerability of English trade in the very able speech which he delivered yesterday. I quite feel and have been made to feel how English trade is vulnerable. With your indulgence, I will refer to my own trade and I will point out to you how it has been affected by the action of Germany on the one hand, and France and Holland and other countries in Europe. I may say that under the tariff negotiated with France—negotiated by Cobden—we had a large business. I may say that that treaty expired—that business gradually died out, and to-day we have no market in France. We are open to their markets, but they exclude our goods as far as they can. When the German tariff came into operation the same result followed. Now, I will give you our position. Before these tariffs came into operation, the mills in our district were being run with continental trade to the extent of something like 90%. When the German tariff came into operation, that business was immediately given up. Within a few years of the operation of the tariff our business with Germany entirely died out—I am speaking now of the particular business with which I am identified, and what was the result? The mills that had formerly been in full operation became silent, and dating back twenty years, fifteen mills within a comparatively small area—most of them equipped in the most efficient manner, manned by hands that were experts with regard to the business in which they were employed, these mills actually became silent.

Now, what was the effect as regards the population? Why, at the last census a population of 7,000 had decreased by four hundred. If you look to Huddersfield, another great manufacturing centre, a most important one, you will find that for the first time in the history of Huddersfield the population has decreased. That is the effect of the action of our continental friends in building up their high walls against our trade.

We had a reference made to the sordid spirit that was shown by some who based the material prosperity of our Empire on mutual help; but what about the sordid spirit of free trade which would see our industries die out like the West India industry? What about the sordid spirit which would take a pride in our competitor, whose sole object must be to destroy the trade which we ought to have. We are quite willing to stand on an equal footing with our competitors. (Cries of "Yes, yes.") If they can beat us in a fair way, we will take a beating. (Hear, hear.) But I do not think we ought to have one hand tied to our side and our competitors have both hands free.

Now, what is the position of the Germans to-day? Would they have occupied the position they do if it had not been for that tariff they have established? (Cries of "no, no.")

They have fortified themselves as regards their own home market, and they have it absolutely at their own disposal and under their own control. They know that they are quite safe in that market and that they can dispose of 75 per cent of their production—75 per cent. of their products are absorbed in their own mar-

ket. They can run their mills up to their fullest capacity. Every manufacturer knows that if he can have his machinery running to its fullest capacity, he can cheapen every item in connection with his production, and he knows that the remaining 25 per cent. can be placed in any market, and he can ruin any of his competitors. The German has his own market and here comes the vulnerability that Sir William Holland spoke about. He has got our market. We have thrown off all our armour, and now is our market to be exploited and made a dumping ground of? I was astonished yesterday to hear the remarks of the gentlemen from Manchester, who pointed out that the more dumping was done the more prosperous our country would become. A more preposterous statement could not emanate from any intelligent person understanding the position of trade. (Hear, hear.)

If we have no producers we can have no purchasers. Another gentleman called attention to how cheap American goods were in comparison, and he was told to go there, and he said: "Well, I have not a shilling to go there." What can our work-people do if they have no employment. The means of purchasing will be gone. (Hear, hear).

Now, I will come to the question of the dear and little loaf. I challenge Sir William Holland, if two loaves were put before him, and if a six shilling duty was put on corn, whether he could discern the difference in the size of the loaf. (Hear, hear.) I don't think he could. (Voices, "No, no.") I may say, gentlemen, that we, in Leeds, have taken particular pains to ascertain as far as possible what would be the effect of a six shilling duty if put upon corn. One of the members of our Chamber interviewed some hundreds of families in Leeds for the purpose of ascertaining, as early as he possibly could, what effect a six shilling duty would have upon corn. He went into the details of the consumption, and I know the man who made the investigation, and I know the extreme care he exercised in making his investigation. What did it amount to? It amounted to this, that in a family of five individuals, if the full effect of the six shilling duty operated, it would mean five pence a week, or a penny a day—less than the price of a cigar. His calculations were based upon the idea that the full six shillings would operate, but a protective tax of six shillings does not cover the whole field. We should have from our Canadian wheat fields, the grandest in the world, we should have the free imports which will tend to moderate the price. (Hear, hear).

Now, with regard to the consumer paying the tax, all that I know is with regard to my own business—that if the tariffs of other countries are increased from time to time, our margins are narrowed down—(hear, hear)—so that we will finally come to the vanishing point. I do not believe that the consumer pays the tax. I do not believe that the importer pays the tax. I believe that the whole circumstances are largely affected by supply and demand—(Hear, hear)—and the truth possibly lies midway between the importer and the consumer. (Applause).

Now, I don't know, with the time at my disposal, that I ought to encroach further upon your indulgence, but I would like to say this: If ever there was a bogey trotted before the working-people of England, it is that of the dear loaf. The times of the dear loaf are over for ever. (Hear, hear.) The steamboat, the railway, the telegraph, the means of transit, the way in which the fertile lands of the British Empire can be brought within reach of our shores have banished for ever the dear loaf. (Cheers.) Economic conditions are absolutely changed since the time of Cobden, and the mistake is that our free trade friends do not recognize actual facts. (Cheers.) They are simply governed and biased by early teachings, and early impressions. I

believe if the broad-minded men of Cobden's time were here to-day, I believe they would look over the broad field of the British Empire, and they would come to the conclusion, in face of the expression of hostile enemies, that our strength lies in developing our own resources. (Hear, hear.) What would be a small increase in the price of bread—what would it be but a slight insurance against those dire times that were forecast in case of war. How should we be situated? The slight increase that would develop the productive capacity of our own colonies and place the food within our reach—what would that slight increase in the price of bread amount to but a small insurance premium against the calamities that some foresee.

A quotation was given the other day from one of our poets, Oliver Goldsmith, with regard to the land where commerce prevails, I would like to give you another quotation. It came forcibly to my mind when I first came in contact with the Canadian people who dwell here. Oliver Goldsmith in his poem, "The Traveller," says:

"Pride in their port  
Defiance in their eye,  
I see the Lords of human kind pass by  
Intent on high design."

The Canadians are intent on a high design, and so I hope are we in the Mother Country.

THE CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Colonel Denison, of Toronto.

MR. DILLON: Has not the time now arrived, Mr. Chairman, in view of the length of the speeches that have been made, that my resolution should now be put to the meeting, so that we may avoid such lengthy and tedious speeches that we are now hearing.

THE CHAIRMAN: The resolution before you, gentlemen, is to this effect:

"That in the opinion of this Congress it is desirable that the debate on Trade Relations should close this morning, and with a view to this, it is resolved that future speeches be limited as follows: First, The Chambers of Commerce who have been heard through one or more of their delegation be heard first, and the speaking be limited to one from each body represented, to be chosen by themselves. Secondly, That should any others desire to speak when those have been heard, and time be available, such speakers may be heard by permission of the Congress for a few minutes."

I will ask you to express your opinion as to whether this resolution should be adopted.

I judge the opinion of the meeting to be divided, therefore, I would recommend that we do not press it. I will now call upon Colonel Denison.

COLONEL DENISON (of Toronto): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I don't think it will take me more than my time to say the few words that I wish to say. I only wish to draw attention to one or two remarks that have been made by previous speakers. A gentleman, yesterday, I think it was, made the remark that if a duty is put upon wheat and the foreign producer pays it, it will not raise the price to the Canadian, and what good will that be to the Canadian? Now, then, we will admit that proposition—we will put that case just as it is, and I will show you how it will be an advantage to the Canadian and to the Empire. If the duty is paid by the producer and the foreign producer is on that side, and the Canadian on that, the Canadian gets the one shilling or two shillings a quarter more than the other. Now is not that clear. Very well, if he does, when the emigrant comes from England and comes to the point where the roads divide, he will say: I go into a foreign country amongst strangers, and I have to pay a shilling or two shillings more—on that side I go into my own country and I am among

my own people and under my own flag, and I make the two shillings by going there. (Applause). Well, if that is the case, instead of as it has been in the past when they came, for various reasons, nine out of every ten Englishmen went into the United States and one came to Canada. If we could change that and put nine men into Canada and one into the United States you would then have ten men growing wheat where there would be no embargo and you would be adding strength to your country, and building up a race of men who in time of need would be a strength to the Empire. And also at the same time you would be doing that, you would be strengthening that bond of sentiment, and it would not cost the English gentleman in Manchester one single farthing a year additional for food. Now, this will not cost a cent to the people in England, and if it is a great advantage to us, why should our friends in England be opposed to it.

My friend, Sir William Holland, spoke about the fact that we were doing this because we wanted to get it as a matter of interest. Now, gentlemen, I say that as far as I am concerned I do not look at it in that light at all. We have in this Empire four hundred millions of people, and fifty millions of these are British who are animated by ties of kindred and blood. Would it be any harm to give some benefit of interest to the others? We are having foreigners coming into our country all the time, and as they are not animated by the same feelings as we are, would it be any harm to allow them to benefit, and would it be any harm to admit that what they are looking for is on account of their own interest?

Now, then, the next point I want to refer to is a matter which came up in the speech of my friend, Mr. Walton. He said he would rather put a duty on to help India than to help Canada, because India only taxes English goods 5% and we tax them 18%.

MR. WALTON: My Lord, I must rise to correct that. I never spoke of putting a duty on; I said that as India only levied 5% on the manufactured goods that we send there I would naturally rather take the wheat from India than Canada since she charged us 18%.

COL. DENISON: Now then, that is it. He has put it quite right in his own way, and I am satisfied with that. What does that mean? If we have a preferential tariff India would get the benefit of it as well as we would, and if you were to take a small percentage off the tax on tea it would relieve the friction and it would help India to that extent. And this gentleman who is very kind to India, and who has a warm feeling for India and who is such a disciple of free trade, says that India only charges us 5% on what we buy from her.

MR. WALTON: On what we sell to her.

COL. DENISON (continuing): Yes, that is right, I beg your pardon, but you tax the Indian tea which they send to England 75%. (Long and prolonged applause). In the face of that fact I appeal now to Mr. Walton, and I beg of him in the interests of these friends of his in India for whom his heart is warming with affection, to take off one-half on the Indian tea, and as a gentleman already said here, it would give the English workmen three pence per annum advantage, or at any rate a small preference in the whole year on their food, if they take it off their tea and put it on to the bread. I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, I have exhausted my time. (Cries of no, no, go on). No, I shall not trespass upon your time.

CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Marsland of Oldham.

MR. D. MARSLAND (Oldham Chamber): My Lord and Gentlemen: Allow me to say in the beginning how pleased the Chamber which I and my colleagues repre-



sent, were to receive an invitation from this colony to attend this meeting, and that in a moment it was decided that some representation should be sent. I form one-third of that representation. I have been thinking that since we have had so much poetry on this question that I might begin by saying: "How doth the little busy bee improve each shining hour." And at the same time if every speaker would come to the point and not drown us with figures and the love of everybody, and wanting preferential treatment, we should get it all finished much sooner. I tell you what was said to me a moment ago. A gentleman said: "I buy United States shoes." My question was, why? And he answered "Because they are cheap, and I believe in protection." "Well, I am a free trader, and I buy those shoes that are made by a Britisher, and I claim there is more patriotism in that than in all the protection you can find in the world. Now, gentlemen, our Chamber, I may tell you as freely as some of the Canadians have spoken, are free traders to the backbone. I am not going to tell you which political party is shoddy, as we say in trade, and which is not.

A VOICE: No, it was agreed that politics would be left out.

MR. MARSLAND: Excuse me—our friend here who proposed the resolution (Mr. Cockshutt, of Toronto) said he would introduce no politics, and in the next sentence he brought in Chamberlain. Now, our instructions are to vote against any preferential treatment, but we look to the country, and we believe as much in our liberty, and that we have a right to do as we believe you have. And you will find this Oldham rough, no matter how rough he is, will stand up for what he believes. I do not object to our Canadian friends putting things straight and in their own way, but we have given them everything already. What more do they want? Grow plenty of corn and we will buy it all. We will send you shirts and everything the looms will produce if you will buy them. And if you buy them and we buy your corn, what else is there to do? Let me say one thing to our woollen friends. You see the kind of goods in this suit I have on.

A DELEGATE: It is all right.

ANOTHER DELEGATE: Made in Germany.

MR. MARSLAND: No, not made in Germany, excuse me.

A DELEGATE: Shoddy.

MR. MARSLAND: No, it is not shoddy. I will tell you a secret of the woollen industry. We spin cotton in Oldham, and we are the greatest spinning centre in the world. We have the greatest number of spindles and turn out the best yarns anywhere, bar Bolton, and we sell the best we have got. If our woollen friends only sold all-wool goods they would do better, but they stick in shoddy materials, and then they say that trade is going down when it is solely due to their own practices. The staple is so short in some cases they have to resort to that practice.

SEVERAL DELEGATES: "Time."

MR. W. SANFORD EVANS (Winnipeg Board of Trade): Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: You have asked, my Lord, that we should confine, if possible, the chief points of our statement to five minutes time. I shall try. I have the honor to represent Winnipeg, which is the gateway to our magnificent prairie domain. We are interested in the food question. At present we are chiefly interested in the wheat supply question. I shall confine myself to wheat and give you two or three thoughts on that question. It has been claimed here by the free traders, or those who oppose the preferential tariff, that a tax on wheat would increase the

price to the British consumer of his loaf. They say the consumer will pay the duty. First, let me ask, what duty? Canada asks that you admit Canadian wheat free of duty. We ask that you encourage us to supply all your wheat free of duty. (Hear, hear.) But they say in answer: "That does not meet the question for the reason that the duty on foreign wheat would set the standard of price." Did the shilling duty during the year that has just passed set a higher standard?

A DELEGATE: "Yes."

OTHER DELEGATES: "No."

MR. EVANS: I think not. Since that duty has been taken off wheat has gone up as much as twenty cents a bushel, which would be in your currency on quarters, eight and sixpence a quarter. I may ask on that point, first, if a shilling did not affect the price—our friend here says it did; I believe it did not—would a duty on foreign wheat with British wheat coming in free have affected it any more? Since that duty was taken off the price has gone up eight and sixpence a quarter, taking the maximum. The point I wish to make is, that there are factors and conditions in the food supply problem which are vastly more powerful in their effects than any such comparatively small duty as one shilling or two shillings or three shillings a quarter. (Applause). Why did not that small duty affect the price, or affect it more if you will? Why are you in England in the position you are in to-day? For the reason that all the producing nations come to you and peddle their wheat. Your miller sits in his office and receives from the cable companies messages from all over the world and he goes through those piles of cablegrams offering wheat. He examines them, plays the one off against the other and gets the wheat at his price. You are in the position of having the producing nations of the world at the present time with surpluses which they must dispose of. They cannot consume them. To leave them at home would break the prices in the home market. They come to you and offer their wheat. That is a position which you who are concerned for the price of bread in the United Kingdom must wish to continue. So long as you can sit in your office and get offers you are safe, but when you have to inquire where you can get wheat, where will the price of your breadstuffs go? (Hear, hear.) What is the position? You are dependent, according to your statistics, which we believe do not take sufficient regard to our Canadian products, for sixty-seven per cent. of your flour and wheat upon the United States. What are the conditions in that country? The conditions to which I would ask your attention are two: first, the population of the United States is increasing very fast. In the second place, the price of wheat lands in the United States is increasing fast. We know what is happening to the States lying to the south of our own wheat belt. Ten or fifteen years ago these lands were worth ten dollars an acre. To-day men are selling them and selling them fast and getting forty-five dollars, fifty dollars, sixty dollars, sixty-five dollars, seventy-five dollars, eighty dollars for the same land. The best wheat produced in the United States is going to be produced from this time forward on land worth four to six times as much as it was ten or fifteen years ago. That movement is going on fast, and so is the population. On dearer land farmers are going to devote more attention to mixed farming, it will pay them better, and the tendency will be they will not grow the same amount of wheat—they cannot get the prices of the past for it, and they must either get better prices or cease to grow wheat. A duty on wheat would tend to develop our great Northwest provinces, would tend sooner than would come by natural means to produce a great surplus in the Northwest. What you want is to keep an immense surplus in the world, from your point of view, and the sooner you get to work to secure



that in Canada the safer you are, the wiser you are, and the better business men you are on the other side. (Applause.) Another point. Can we supply it? There will be those who will speak on another resolution from Winnipeg, who will speak with more knowledge. When you travel to Winnipeg, in a few days and when you get there, imagine yourselves standing in London, looking north to Edinburgh. Take a line as far north as Edinburgh. Then, if you will imagine yourselves facing east instead of west, look as far east as Paris, as far as Vienna. Take the strip from London to Edinburgh, as far distant as from London to Vienna, and there, gentlemen, you have the greater part, not the whole, of our great wheat belt in the west. You keep that line in your mind, from London to Vienna, and you can remember what proportion of England would be left between that and the sea, and that little strip of England represents every acre of Manitoba and the west in which the plough has yet drawn a furrow. (Applause.) It is not all as good land as the best of it. Probably not. Make your own subtraction, take away whatever proportion you consider fair, and still there is enough land there to supply two or three times all the food products you can ever possibly need in the United Kingdom. (Applause.)

These are my main points. My Lord and Gentlemen, I thank you.

Mr. J. STEPHEN JEANS (The British Iron Trade Association): My Lord and Gentlemen: We have had speeches on behalf of the cotton trade, the woollen trade and the timber trade and one or two other industries incidentally. It has fallen to my lot to say something on behalf of the iron trade. I think you will agree with me that it will be difficult for any speaker at this Congress to have a more important theme. I am only sorry that the absence of my President has compelled me to fill his shoes, because I feel certain that he would have done it very much more effectively than it is possible for me to do. I am reminded by the situation of the iron trade of the story of the small religious sect in some of the American states which adopted a syllogism in something like this form:—

Resolved: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.

The Lord shall give the inheritance of the earth unto His Saints.

Resolved: That we are the Saints. (Laughter.)

I think, gentlemen, that I may to some extent use a similar syllogism as applied to the great iron industries. The principle that the greater includes the less applies to manufacturing industries as to other human officers. Therefore, that which affects the iron trade must also affect all other industries. Sir William Holland, in the course of his admirable speech, has informed you that the cotton industry in our country maintains something like three millions of people and has an annual value of one hundred millions sterling. The iron trade in its various branches including the machinery and the hardware branches, gives employment to something like a million and a quarter of hands, and probably is the means of maintaining considerably more than even the cotton trade. So far as the trade between the United Kingdom and Canada is concerned, the iron trade is in a very peculiar position. I have put down a record in the shortest form possible and in a few sentences I will lay the position before you.

I would begin by saying, we all know that the newspapers throughout the world have within two or three years devoted a very large amount of attention to the iron trade in its various branches, and that the iron trade has been pointed to more perhaps than any other as the frightful example of the decay of Great Bri-

tain's manufacturing supremacy. So far as the trade with this country is concerned we are, as you know, very greatly hampered by competition on the part of the United States. English iron masters do not admit that the condition of things which we have had in existence for the last two or three years based upon that competition, is inevitable. They give full credit to the United States and Germany for their enterprise and capacity, but they feel that they would have no cause for fear were it not for protection which enables producers in this country to adopt, combine and syndicate prices at home and dump their surplus on foreign shores, like our own, at any price they can get. This wrecking of values has taken place in Canada, and is likely to continue to do so even if the duties on foreign products were considerably increased. The question therefore that touches the minds and pockets and conscience of the iron trade of the Mother Country is this. What advance of duty, if any, would have to be made to give the British manufacturers, without protection, the power to compete with rivals who enjoy that advantage, and especially with the United States. In my opinion 33½ per cent. is not sufficient, and I believe that this view is also entertained by the members of the iron trade in the Mother Country. It probably would be sufficient if protection were given to British manufacturers in the home market.

I don't advocate that, because I have no authority to do so, but if that did form part of the scheme before us, I think the case would probably be altered. With some arrangement of that kind, the United States would still be likely to send iron and steel into the Canadian market—as admitted before the industrial consumers, especially when trade was not booming at home. Well, now, I would call your attention to the fact that the United States has been in the habit of sending considerable quantities of iron and steel into the Canadian market, as admitted before the industrial commission now sitting in the United States—at prices much less than sold to home consumers, and until this has been altered, I fear it will be difficult to persuade the iron trade that they are likely to attain a very considerable advantage by the alterations now proposed. I would add that it is a hopeful augury for the future, when we think how favorably the present compares with the past. There is not now any apprehension of famine, as there was at the close of the eighteenth century, when the Mother Country was drawing part of its food supplies from the British Colonies of North America, greatly fearing the supply would be inadequate. The noble words uttered by Burke in the House of Commons at that time, seem to have a striking bearing upon conditions and circumstances at the present time. He then remarked: "The scarcity which we have known would have been a desolating famine had not the colonies, with true filial piety, applied the full breasts of their youthful exuberance to the mouth of their exhausted parent." That which has been in the past will be again in the future, and, I for one, have no fear that whether or not an arrangement is made on this occasion, such as is suggested in the resolution, and recommended by various speakers, the great wheat fields of this country will inevitably, in the long run, be the means of support of the teeming millions of the Mother Country.

MR. ALEXANDER McNEILL (Warton, Ontario, Board of Trade): When four millions of Canadians resolved that they would no longer allow their country to be made a mere dumping ground for the surplus products of the factories in the United States, they were told it was mid-summer madness for four millions to attempt to enter into a fiscal war with the great American Republic; and that they would be ruined, destroyed and annihilated if they attempted any such policy. But, gentlemen, we

have survived. (Applause). We never knew what true prosperity was till then. (Renewed applause). Are we to be told here to-day, that forty millions of Englishmen, Irishmen and Scotchmen, with all the material resources they possess, dare not venture to do what four millions of Canadians, lying under the shadow of the Republic, ventured to do and did successfully? (Loud applause). Is that the message that Sir William Holland and Mr. Helm bring across the waters to us? If it be, without intending any discourtesy, I wish to say they do not truly represent that British spirit which has won for the Mother Country the position she holds to-day among the nations of the earth. (Cheers).

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND: I am sure you will allow me to say that the interpretation the speaker has placed upon my views is not the correct one. I did not for a moment suggest I would not dare to embark on reprisals against the United States, but I did suggest that I did not think it politic in the present state of affairs to do anything of the kind, but under other conditions I would fight as bravely as any of you. (Applause).

MR. MCNEILL: I am very glad, indeed, to have elicited from Sir William the statement he has made. I understood him to say distinctly we would risk the loss of their friendship, and that England under no circumstances, would do anything of that kind. I am very glad I misunderstood him, and that we have had such an explicit statement from him. We have heard much about the comparative smallness, the insignificance of the colonial market as compared with the foreign market. I could have wished that Sir William and others had had an opportunity to see for themselves and realize the fact that in riches of the sea, of the forest, of the mine; and in extent and wealth of arable fertile lands, this half continent, which we call Canada, far exceeds in resources, the resources of all the great European powers added together, if we leave out Russia. I think, if they had realized this fact, they would—some of them—have agreed with me, that the argument about the smallness of the colonial markets is a little shortsighted. What will the value of the Canadian market be when the population of Canada is equal to that of the United States, and that it will be, is as sure as that the sun will rise above the horizon to-morrow? What will its value to the Mother Country be when the population is only ten or twelve millions of people? It will, at the present rate of purchase, be equal in value to that of the United States. No one who knows the facts and circumstances, will say my statement is an extravagant one when I assert that given preferential trade, the population of Canada will be ten or twelve million in a very few years. We have heard much of the value of the Chinese market to the Mother Country, but may I remind the delegates that our colony of New Zealand, in 1899, with 750,000 population, took of the produce of the Mother Country, I don't say so much as China, but not so very much less. The figures are, China £5,575,000, and New Zealand, £5,484,00. (Cheers).

Cape Colony before the troubles in South Africa arose purchased of the produce of the Mother Country much more than Austria-Hungary, Italy, Spain and Portugal added together. Australia, with a population to-day of three and three-quarter millions, buys from the Mother Country four million nine hundred thousand sterling worth more than France, and three millions—as nearly as possible—three millions more of the produce of the Mother Country than does the great Republic to the south. (Applause). Are these comparatively small markets? Are these markets not worth fostering? In view of the fact that these are even to-day but infant markets, might it not possibly be the part of wisdom to

risk some loss—and I deny that there would be any loss—I say there would be a gain—but might it not be the part of wisdom to risk some possible loss in these foreign markets over which the Mother Country can obtain no control and which are rapidly diminishing markets, I say, might it not be a wise policy to risk some loss there in order to secure now, while there is yet time, the lion's share of these mighty colonial markets, of the future. (Applause). Is it not, sir, clear to any unprejudiced mind that the truest and the wisest policy for the Mother Country to pursue, is that which will most rapidly develop the resources of these vast outlying fertile regions peopled by her sons, regions which contain within their limits every variety of soil, every variety of climate and every variety of produce that the heart of man can desire. Is it not as clear as the sun at noon-day that within the confines of her matchless Empire, the Mother Country possesses elements of riches—latent elements of riches, capable of bringing her an era of prosperity and plenitude of power (applause), such as the world has never witnessed. (Renewed applause).

Never before have there been committed into the keeping of any nation opportunities comparable to hers. The four corners of the earth are hers. Its richest treasures are under her hands, held for her by her own sons. (Applause.) She holds command of the seas, and the seas are, therefore, in a certain sense her own special highways. That these splendid opportunities will be permitted to slip from a nerveless grasp I, for my part, cannot believe, for I am well persuaded that the patriotic pride, the self-governing instincts, the trading and the imperial instincts of the British people render them singularly well qualified to take advantage of these splendid opportunities, and to grapple successfully with the great task of Empire that is committed into their hands. (Applause.) The days of *laissez faire* are ended. The hell-born doctrine that her own kith and kin beyond the seas were only waiting a favorable opportunity to turn their backs upon her, and forsake her, is now recognized for the foul calumny that it always was. Whether they dwell in Wales, or New South Wales, here in Canada, or over there in those dear islands from which so many of you have recently set sail, the British people are one people. The men who hold for the Mother Country the outposts of the Empire are blood of her blood, and bone of her bone, and are determined to-day to stand by her to the last in sunshine or in storm. But if any words of mine could reach her, if any poor feeble words of mine could move the minds or touch the hearts of the Statesmen into whose hands her destinies to-day are in some degree committed, I would say: let not the golden day escape you, bind those distant sons to you closer still; bind them by every possible tie of self-interest and of affection, for, believe me, by them and through them, and in co-operation with them, and not by grace, favor, or forbearance of cunning foreign rivals is to be found assurance for the continued well-being and prosperity of your own islands. (Prolonged applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have scarcely heard any representatives from South Africa as yet. I am sure you would all like to give them a hearing—(Applause)—and I will now call upon Mr. Snell, of Durban, and afterwards Mr. Lilienfeld, of Pretoria. (Applause.)

MR. EDWARD SNELL (Durban, S. A. Chamber of Commerce): My Lord and Gentlemen: I am very glad of the opportunity of coming here to support the important motion which is now before the Congress. I should be sorry to have had to go back, after having merely recorded a silent vote of approval on this important question. I deeply regret that I cannot express myself in the manner that our friend from New Zealand has done, but I feel that though I am unable to do so my sentiments are as sincere as his.

The feelings of the colony which I represent are just as warm and just as sincere as those expressed by our friend. The conditions of Natal are, of course, very different from those existing in Great Britain or Canada, and it may be that at the first blush we might not like to have a preferential tariff, which might have the effect of raising the price of commodities. We are not a food producing country. We have to import most of our food. We have no manufacturing for steel, or iron, or cotton, to protect, and, therefore, it is comparatively to our interests to buy everything in the cheapest markets that we can; but, gentlemen, we take a deeper interest in the question than this. (Applause.) We know that it is essential that the whole British Empire should be built up, and we know that the cutting colonies cannot build up their interests without a certain measure of protection being granted and that our population instead of remaining with us, will go to foreign countries, where they will be a source of weakness to the Mother Country instead of a source of strength. Therefore, I am now to support this important motion, because I feel that Mr. Chamberlain is right—(Applause)—that the time has come to enquire into it—(renewed applause)—that something good will come out of it, something which will benefit the whole Empire. Therefore, to those gentlemen, who may say, "leave things alone" I would say to them, "Look beyond our noses."—(Cheers)—look to the men from the outlying flanks of the Empire who have felt the stress of war.

Mr. R. LILIENTHAL (of the Pretoria Chamber of Commerce, South Africa): My Lord and Gentlemen: I have the honor to represent the Chamber of Commerce of Pretoria—(Cheers)—the part of the South African continent which has only within the last few years been painted red on our maps. (Applause.) I am sorry that no representative should be here from our great business centre, Johannesburg, but I will do the best I can for the Transvaal. (Applause.)

Coming to you from such a distance, I think it will interest you to hear some of our views on the present situation, and particularly with reference to the motion now before you, which I am instructed, on behalf of my Chamber, to heartily support. (Applause.) I am also requested to convey to you that this motion is also supported by the delegates to this Congress from Kimberley and from Basutoland, who do not wish by their separate addresses to take up more of your valuable time than is necessary. (Applause.)

Gentlemen and my Lord: I beg to assure you that the entire community of Pretoria as well as of other important centres in our country have been to a great extent British in spirit if not all in nationality for a long time, even before the late war, and that British sentiment has developed in a very short time to such an extent that I can assure you that our pride in being a portion of the British Empire, and our jealousy of its privileges and of its liberties cannot be surpassed by any of you. (Applause.) We realize, gentlemen, as you do, at the present moment, that there is a momentous period in front of us, and that it is essential to bring the different parts of the Empire into closer union—(Hear, hear)—and it is our chief desire in the Transvaal to do our utmost to help in the consolidation of the Empire by every means in our power and thereby assure its predominant position in the world. (Applause.)

We further recognize that the chief factor to be dealt with is British trade, and that chiefly by facilitating by all proper devices, the trade between the Mother Country, and the colonies, we shall add to the security of the Empire. (Applause.)

Gentlemen, I am, perhaps, here in a most unique position in promoting a system of placing the relations between the colonies and the Mother Country in

a better position, when I say that I have nothing to ask for our colonies of the Transvaal. We have to import all our manufactures; we have to import chiefly all our food products, etc., and it is entirely from a sense of justice, and, if you will, from sentiment—(hear, hear)—that we are prepared to take any fair burden on ourselves which the furthering of the consolidation of the Empire may put upon our shoulders. (Applause.) We are practically exporting nothing but gold and diamonds (laughter), and I believe they can take care of themselves. (Renewed laughter.)

Gentlemen, we all of us have initiated a beginning in the direction indicated by me. We, as a Chamber of Commerce have been quite in accord with our Government to make a preferential tariff in favor of British colonies of 25%; and I may here state that it is not correct as one of our previous speakers said, that we made it conditional. (Hear, hear.) This 25% concession is made unconditionally. (Hear, hear.) And this concession I must say is not an immaterial one, because our import duties range from 12% to 25%. The amount of our imports at the present time, even under these abnormal conditions are, per annum fifteen millions sterling. We take from other States than the British Empire the amount of three million eight hundred thousand pounds sterling. In initiating this preferential tariff we hope to divert out of the three million eight hundred thousand pounds sterling, two million pounds sterling to Great Britain and her colonies.

This may be considered by you as a very small item indeed, but gentlemen, do not forget that the possibilities of our colony are enormous (hear, hear), and that the figures I have given may, in a comparatively short time, be trebled and quadrupled. (Applause.)

In the Transvaal perhaps we recognize more than any other part of the world the blessings of a strong Government and we believe that our future is safe in the hands of such a man as our Colonial Secretary (prolonged applause), who enjoys the fullest confidence of every loyal British subject in South Africa. (Cheers.) And who, we firmly believe, will be able to bring this difficult and intricate fiscal question to a satisfactory issue. (Applause.)

I am of opinion that if the motion before us is carried, a constitutional commission of business men will rise to the occasion and find such ways and means as to make a moderate system of protection applicable in order to upbuild our trades and industries without detriment to any portion of our population. (Applause.)

I quite agree with the sentiment that on no account should the burden of the poor man be made heavier. But if it is found advisable to impose a tax upon wheat, when in the same proportion other duties are reduced, so that the amount of the working men's bill at the end of the week is the same—I fail to see that there can be any objection to such a duty, especially if he secures the advantage of stimulating trade in our colonies to an extent that can support the Empire and make us independent of foreign countries.

Gentlemen, in South Africa we take a more general view of things than you do here, and some of the things that have struck us in the past is that the British trade has not done of late years justice to its possibilities, and that the progress of other countries in trade has been by greater strides than the progress of Great Britain. That is due, I think, to the indifference of one portion of its industries to the other. We look upon the industries of Great Britain as one great structure, and if part of this great structure is being undermined we think it is not right that the others sitting or standing in any other part of that structure should be indifferent so long as they do not see that



they are being undermined themselves. They ought to work together. What affects one industry to-day may affect another to-morrow. They ought to work in a common spirit.

I have heard the bell ring which notifies me that I must draw my remarks to a close, and I only wish to conclude by saying that from our old antagonists in South Africa, who are now our fellow colonists, there are a good many lessons to be learned, and it would be to our advantage if we would adopt their motto, "Unity makes strength."

The CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Mr. Angier, of London.

MR. T. V. S. ANGIER (London Chamber of Shipping): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: Before tackling my five minutes, I would like to voice what I feel sure the gentlemen here in this great meeting all feel. I desire to record and to express my surprise and satisfaction at the glorious galaxy of oratory and poetry we have heard in this great meeting. I would challenge any meeting that has ever come together in the world to produce a greater.

A DELEGATE: I would like to draw the attention of the chair to the fact that this gentleman spoke yesterday afternoon on this same question.

ANOTHER DELEGATE: Not on this question, my Lord, but on every other question.

The CHAIRMAN: We heard this gentleman yesterday on the steamship question.

MR. ANGIER (continuing): I am ready to yield my place to any one. It is no great pleasure to occupy this place, but it is only an enthusiastic feeling of interest in the Empire that impels me. As I was saying, the oratory has been grand. We have heard the opponents to the preferential tariff trot out faith, we have heard poetry, but gentlemen, I think in business the great principle we must always maintain to be successful is common sense, and a keen appreciation of the laws of supply and demand. This is my talisman, and I think every successful man will agree with me. Now, as a common sense Empire we are governed by the same laws that govern individuals, and I would like to ask if there is any individual or any firm that carries on business for fifty years, and never strikes a balance sheet or never looks into their accounts. That is the way this Empire has been going on for fifty years, and look at the result of our trade and how the trading concerns have treated us, or what they have given us for favors bestowed. And I would like to emphasize this one great point. Every one who looks into this question, and sees the fact that this Empire buys one-half the products of the rest of the world, must realize that is a commanding position, but do we get the full value out of it? Nothing like it, we must all confess that. Now, I maintain that occupying that position there is no possibility of thinking with any great fear on what foreign nations will do to us. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. McRobert, of Cawnpore.

THE HONORABLE M. A. McROBERT (Cawnpore Chamber): My Lord President and Gentlemen: In my precious five minutes I will merely observe that I feel it my duty to take part in this debate. Whatever our opinion on the fiscal policy of the Empire we have all the same object in view, the prosperity and aggrandisement of the glorious British Empire. I feel that I have a good excuse for taking part in this discussion. My Chamber is the commercial mouth-piece of a large and important tract of the Indian Empire, with 12 times the population of Canada. I have travelled 12,000 miles to attend this meeting. My Chamber draws its members from a territory having a population

of 70 millions. I am here representing the commercial interests of a population of citizens of the British Empire nearly twice as large as the total population of Great Britain and all its self-governing colonies combined. The terms of the amendment now proposed, are plainly and intentionally designed with the view of endeavoring to reconcile conflicting interests, the interests of frankly protectionist countries like Canada and New Zealand, and those of free trade countries like Great Britain and India. It must be taken for granted that the Mother Country has always attempted to buy as much as possible of what India has to sell, and India has honestly wished to confine her purchases to England. Now, what has been the result? The foreign trade of India amounts to nearly seven hundred millions of dollars yearly, made up of imports, two hundred and seventy millions; exports over four hundred millions. Of India's total exports the Mother Country takes 25%, the colonies 20%, and the proportion finding its way to foreign countries is 55%. Looking at the imports in the same way, we shall find that the Mother Country supplied 66%, that is two-thirds, the colonies, 10%, and foreign countries only 24%. Now these figures, if they prove anything at all, prove that India has been consistently loyal to the Mother Country, but they do not prove that that loyalty has been reciprocal. They seem to me to show that the Mother Country as a shopkeeper, is not swayed by sentimental considerations, but that she buys where she can suit her pockets best, which is the most sensitive part of a man's anatomy, as was so well expressed by the eloquent address of the mover of the resolution, who moved us all to admiration by his impassioned address.

It is an old saying, that the leopard does not change his spots. If we expected such a miracle we would be irresistibly reminded of the old lady who thought to keep back the tide with a broom. Whatever resolution we adopt, whatever the result of any inquiry, trade will continue to flow in the channel of economic conditions. In India we have a large population depending on agriculture, and with 300,000,000 of people the margin of cultivation is so small, that when the annual rains fail over a considerable tract of country dire disasters follow and famine stalks through the land. And how many of you gentlemen understand what famine means? In that country the ordinary standard of living is such, that the people have to be content with one meal a day. Can you picture the condition where the wherewithal for that one meal is absent. If one of us had to give up one of our three meals a day, how would we feel about it; though most of us could omit luncheon without vital inconvenience? It is, therefore, important that the manufactures and infant industries of India should be encouraged, so that that country may be less at the mercy of the vicissitudes of the season, than at present. It is only in the rural districts that famine is felt; there is never any famine in the manufacturing cities of Bombay, Calcutta and Cawnpore. Canada and the other colonies only buy manufactured goods from the Motherland when they cannot produce these. Canada and other countries are increasing their manufactures with the aids of protective tariffs and bounties. India is doing the same thing without tariffs; indeed, I may say India is liable to penalties for her enterprise. Take the case of the duty on cotton goods. Up to a few years ago India had been an absolutely free trade country, but she had to impose a duty of five per cent. on nearly all but raw goods and machinery, for purely revenue purposes. There was no word of protection in it, but in spite of the protests raised, the Chancellor of the Exchequer ordered countervailing duties on cloth. It is generally understood that this action was taken at the instance of



Lancashire and agreed to, not because it was just, fair or reasonable, but from political motives. (Applause). Had India possessed the power of self-government in the smallest degree it would not have been imposed. I also believe it would never have been imposed had the present viceroy, Lord Curzon, been in power. Imagine Canada or Australia, or any of the self-governing colonies being dictated to by political wire pullers in England. No one last year suggested that wheat from India should be free or called for countervailing duties to put the British farmer on an equality with his Indian brother. In this matter, I understood that Egypt is in much the same position as India. In a matter of this kind, where a country is striving to become a great manufacturing one, they find it difficult to arrange matters with the Mother Country satisfactorily. For tariff purposes they are mutually antagonistic. I have always found it is the consumer who pays the duty. Now, let me give you an instance from India. In the case of indigo, of which India has practically a monopoly, it might be benefited. There is a new process now for the synthetical manufacture of indigo on a large scale, and by reason of this competition the industry is considered by many to be in the throes of death. Would the misguided Birstall men who have addressed us, and who use large quantities of indigo in their mills, be willing to have a duty on synthetical indigo when imported, or an excise duty on it when made in England for the benefit of India? I trow not. Mr. Hurst spoke to us of mills being closed down, but I did not understand from what he said that he had been closed out. I rather judge that a man of his vigor and energy is in control of flourishing and prosperous factories. (Applause). We must look elsewhere than to Holland and other countries for the reason. I am also a woolen manufacturer and would like to convince Mr. Hurst in regard to these other countries that they can be beaten without a preferential tariff, which is an instrument which cuts both ways. Lately, in the adoption of countervailing duties on sugar, the sugar consumer in India was not consulted and had no voice in passing the measure. I would also point out the danger of irritating foreign countries by the adoption of preferential tariffs, (cries of dissent) because foreign countries are India's best customers. There are many other difficulties to which I might refer, but I will refrain when I remember that a man like Mr. Helm, with his unrivalled opportunities for acquiring information, is limited to ten minutes. Sir William Holland was asked for the meaning of his amendment, by those who thought that the words contained some hidden meaning. They seem to me to be quite free from ambiguity, and I would ask those who support the resolution what meaning they attach to the words that are left in. I cannot think any injury to the Empire is thought of. If measures can be devised along the lines I have dwelt on, my chamber would be content to give them their support. I will conclude in the words of good George Herbert:—

"Who aimeth at the sky he  
"Higher butteth than he who aims a tree."

Mr. LANCASTER (Liverpool Chamber): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I rise only for the purpose of explaining, at this late hour, with so many speeches to be delivered and so many that we have listened to, that I do not mean to deliver the speech I had prepared. I have been a speaker on other matters at this Congress, and I recognize the right of this Congress to hear the views of people who have not spoken. Whatever be the nature and scope of this resolution, whatever you may design as to the introduction of those words which Sir William Holland suggested should be added, and which have my cordial approbation, which I think you Canadians can safely admit; what-

ever the fate of that resolution, the English delegates who came over here have learned more than what is contained within the four corners of that resolution. A great many have for the first time been brought face to face with their Canadian fellow-citizens, have been struck by their earnestness, their absolute sincerity, the speaking soul and speaking lips, the very reasons of their feelings; they have met them and have learned from them that they do not want to suggest any arrangement for Canada detrimental to the interests of Great Britain—(Applause)—nor do they suggest for Great Britain any arrangement detrimental to the interests of herself.

They recommend a unity of hearts which involves a unity of interests and prosperity for the whole. Gentlemen, I beg you to consider well the eloquent words in which Mr. Cockshutt introduced this resolution, in which he besought you not to make the mistake of becoming involved in details which may not come within your perview at all, but to confine your attention to the general principle involved and to vote for that.

What has Canada done to encourage British sympathy and support for the resolution which it is proposed to adopt to-day? One thing that she has done of the highest possible importance, especially to those connected with the shipping interest, is the improvement of our noble waterways and of the St. Lawrence river, which is beginning for the first time to be rightly understood, and which has done more than anything else to put a stopper on Mr. Morgan's steamship combine. (Hear, hear). I am informed, and I believe it is correct, that the waterways which have been constructed at a cost of about seventy-five million dollars are perfectly free, are maintained by the Government of Canada at no charge to those who use them, and that the revenue of the country thus loses about three hundred thousand dollars a year, which is absolutely lost to the revenue, although it might very well and very fairly be collected. By means of this waterway, wheat can be brought from Fort William or Duluth or Chicago to Liverpool or London at two shillings and three-pence per quarter by all water, while it costs three shillings per quarter to bring it to Buffalo, from which point it goes by rail to the coast and then to Europe.

Another point which I wish briefly to mention is that of the railways of Canada. We want more Canadian railways. The Canadian Pacific now runs through American territory to a Canadian port. The most eastern terminus of the Grand Trunk is Quebec, but now that we are having a new Grand Trunk railroad, we must have a Canadian terminus. The road must be entirely on Canadian soil and must have a Canadian terminus on the seacoast in the eastern provinces. Canada does not ask any subvention for this enterprise, but with reference to the steamship resolution which you have carried with such enthusiasm, a subsidy in aid would be a very great preference to Canada indeed. I ask you to see to it that some plans be adopted for the introduction to Canada on a wholesale scale of British capital and British emigration rather than send them to the United States. Encourage emigration to Canada rather than to other countries. Turn British Capital in this direction in order to develop our illimitable resources, and to increase at the same time the security of the Mother Land.

One more matter I wish to mention, to which some attention should be paid. Some time ago Sir William Mulock and the Canadian Minister of Finance and the President of the Montreal Board of Trade, when in England, offered to put up the whole expense of having a Commission of experts sent to the St. Lawrence to examine the route, and make any suggestion which could be of any possible advantage. That has not been attended to. It ought to be attended to. Nothing further has been heard of that Commission.

Gentlemen, I have done. Let me beseech you to vote for the resolution, even though you may differ on some point of detail. No bargain will be made which will be in anyway unfair. There is no danger of disagreement arising in that way, because in making the arrangements we will all remember that rich gifts prove poor when givers prove unkind. (Applause.)

Mr. S. W. ROYAL (Manchester Chamber of Commerce): My Lord President: When I was called upon to attend this meeting, I believed I was going to attend a business meeting. I am sorry to say that a great deal of time has been occupied in what I would call self-laudation. We, in Manchester, are accustomed to leave a great deal unsaid, and are in some respects more apt to speak plainer than yourselves. It is the history of Britain that we have done for the colonies a very great deal. We have shown what we can do in a practical way in South Africa. We have not only spent our money there, but we have sacrificed of the best of our sons. A great deal of things might very well have been left unsaid here, as being understood between business men.

Now let us get to the bottom of this matter. I am here to voice the views of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and if any word I may speak may not be in support of that resolution passed by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, I will say, as Mr. Boulton did, that it is to be taken as my own individual opinion, and my personal idea. Let us see as to these proposals of Canada, because it is our friends the Canadians who have made the proposal. They say, we give you a preference of one-third on 35%, bringing the duties down to about 25%. Is that counted as a revenue or a protective duty. No answer is required. It is perfectly clear that it is a protective duty. You wish to put on a protective duty for the benefit of the industry of your own land. We in Britain do not take the slightest objection to any tariff you may think will be in the interests of your country. Surely you must agree to give Great Britain the same privilege as you expect for yourselves. All we want is to be put in a position where the change will be in the interest of Great Britain and the dependencies and self-governing colonies, that is what we are asking for. We ask the insertion of a few extra words, so as to make clear beyond a doubt that this is the object. There is no harm in inserting a few words that will make the resolution unmistakable. Then, gentlemen, there is another point. We in Britain draw our food from foreign lands as well as from the colonies. You say, put a duty on corn in order to assist the Empire. I am not prepared to say that that will not be done. But it will not be done in Great Britain until the matter has been sifted and cleared up in a most unmistakable way. And why do I say this? You say, put a duty on corn in order to assist your corn-growing lands in Manitoba. I should have thought, with these fertile lands, you would have been able to do without any assistance from the Old Country. I speak plainly to you, and believe plain speaking will make us longer friends. If it is necessary for Great Britain to discriminate against the whole world in favor of Canada, let us clearly see we are doing it in the interests not only of Great Britain, but of the Empire. I would almost say if the proposition of Canada had been made by anyone else I am not sure there would not have been some very diverse, not to say disagreeable criticism. But there has been nothing of the kind; we wish to see our brothers and sisters across the sea prosper. But when you ask us to do this, you must remember you are endeavoring to establish for yourselves a manufacturing industry, and that you are either getting imports from foreign countries or from Great Britain. You have expressed, by your action in the preferential tariff, that you prefer to get from the Old Country.

But still you wish to be independent of even the Old Country, and I say under those conditions, is it not clear that what you ought to do to show your sympathy with the Old Country is to say, we will go in with free trade within the Empire, and let a tax be put, if need be, upon some goods coming from foreign lands. That is a proposition which I do not know, but Britain would accept in her own interests and yours. Great Britain can no longer tolerate countries with large tariffs keeping for themselves their own markets and exploiting our country. We could tolerate it in days gone by, before the days of trusts and syndicates and pools. In my business I could prove that half a dozen trades have been either absolutely annihilated or seriously crippled by trusts and pools. I only want to say, in conclusion, if you in Canada would rise to the occasion and adopt free trade within the Empire, within five years, you would be sending representatives to the Imperial Parliament in London. I can see that Canada has built up many industries on the protective basis. I might call them exotic industries. But in your own interests, in the interests of the Empire, and of your children, and of the great future of this mighty land, make up your mind in time, and don't let it be said that you in Canada delayed or stopped the adoption of free trade within the realms of King Edward.

The PRESIDENT: I will call upon Mr. Peacock, of Cohurg, Tasmania, to address the Congress.

Mr. W. B. PEACOCK, Hobart (Tasmania Chamber of Commerce): I come not from the farthest north, but from the farthest south, from an island which is the gem of the Southern Ocean. I feel in coming here to this Congress a certain amount of diffidence. After listening to all that has been said, I think it is not a Congress of Canada versus England, plus Australia, but Canada versus England, or to a large extent at any rate. In listening to the many debates we have had, I feel my own views have been to a considerable extent modified. When coming here in the good ship Canada, some of us felt we should not be so well received here if we crossed the wishes of our good Canadian friends in this matter of preferential trade. But our minds have been disabused, and we have been assured we shall receive the same kind of hospitality that we should otherwise have done. The position of the Australian Commonwealth is entirely different from that of Canada. We are geographically at a disadvantage. What we would like to have would be equality of opportunity. You Canadians have the Mother Country at your doors. You can send your produce into England at a much lower rate than we can, and your products are to a certain extent different.

As far as I can myself see, and I speak for others, there can be no material harm to this community, or to the British people, if a preferential duty of say 2s. per quarter was placed upon Canadian wheat. You must remember, gentlemen, that it will not stop trade, and what I would like to say is, that if the delegates present were able to accept the amendment so well put forward by Sir William Holland, and wait for the statesmen to consider the question it would make it very much easier. Take the case of the Commonwealth of Australia: Mr. Chamberlain says there must be no tax upon wool. We export wool very largely to the United Kingdom, and should not the stockholder from Australia have a preference for his wool as well as the Canadian wheat farmer? (Voices: That is right.)

Victoria sends home butter in very large quantities. Sometimes a steamer will take a thousand tons of it at a time. The Victorian will ask, "Why cannot I have a preference for the butter I send into England over Holland and Denmark and France?" (Voices: Why not?) Take our own country, Tasmania. We

have not these things to send to you; we have a few apples. (A voice: "And good apples, too.") (Laughter.) Perhaps I am wrong; perhaps I should say we send apples to the Mother Country, but our main exports are minerals. Two-thirds of the colony's products are copper, and silver and gold. Are we to get twenty-one shillings from the Australian or are we to have a preference from the Mother Country as against the produce of alien lands? All these questions we have to consider, and they will have to be considered by any British statesman who attempts to solve the problem.

Therefore, I ask you gentlemen, to accept the amendment so well put forward by Sir William Holland, who for the first time I have had the great pleasure of listening to, and if you can see your way to do that, we can do it without feeling that we have given an instruction, for an inquiry, and at the same time suggested the verdict. We want the inquiry to be open, and then we may be able to hope that the solution of the question will be satisfactory to all concerned. (Applause, and cries of vote, vote).

THE CHAIRMAN: In deference to what I am informed to be the general desire that we should now draw our exhaustive debate to a close by some effective manifestation of the opinion of the Congress, I will call upon the mover of a substantive resolution, Mr. S. Taylor, of Bury.

MR. ROBERT S. TAYLOR (Bury): Mr. President and Gentlemen: This Congress has, with great ability, persistence and patience, discussed the resolution which has been presented to it, and an appeal has been made to myself and my confreres by influential members of the Toronto and London Chambers, which is entitled to respectful consideration. We also are mindful of the dignity and impartiality which your Lordship has lent to this prolonged debate on this great question at this Congress, and without at all swerving from the principle enunciated in the amendment, printed on page 35 of the 6th edition of the programme of business, still believing that an independent inquiry would be invaluable. I and my colleagues ask leave, my Lord, not to proceed with it, as it is feared it will take up too much time to discuss it. (Cries of vote, vote).

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am now about to call upon a speaker also in deference to a request which has been made to me by superior authority, a speaker for whom I entertain a more than ordinary paternal regard and whom, as an old free trader of forty years' standing, I look upon in another point of view as something in the nature of a masked battery. I will now call upon my son (applause) and I think I shall have you with me sharing my feeling of appreciation at the reservation and self-restraint which he has imposed upon himself in deference to his father's position, and has thus far refrained from addressing you. I am delighted at your insistence now. Give him a chance, which I am quite sure will inflict no pain upon me (laughter) and which will, I trust, contribute to the success and value of our deliberations.

HONORABLE T. A. BRASSET (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): My Lord and Gentlemen: I am exceedingly obliged to you for the kind permission you have accorded me to address a few remarks before the close of this important debate. I have felt bound to refuse to second this resolution on behalf of the London Chamber out of regard for my father. I regret it the more now that the discussion is coming to a close, because I am as strong as any Canadian in the conviction that some reform in the fiscal policy of the United Kingdom is necessary. (Applause). And in the second place, because I feel that some of the most important arguments which might be adduced

in favor of a change of policy have barely been alluded to, and others have not even been touched upon in the course of the discussion. I will pass over the decline of the agricultural population in the Mother Country, and the effect that this is having upon the physique and stamina of the race. I will pass over all that is meant, by the fact, that during the last ten years of the nineteenth century the balance of imports over exports in the United Kingdom has practically doubled, but I would ask you say one word with regard to Ireland. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the fiscal policy of the United Kingdom was governed in the selfish interests of the people of Great Britain. During the era of free trade, well, there was an immense advance in the commercial prosperity until the last years of the century, but the population of Ireland diminished to one-half. (Hear, hear).

MR. CHILDERS, a great Liberal statesman and chairman of the financial resolutions commission at the time of his death, was of the opinion that however beneficial the policy of free trade might have been to the people of Great Britain, it was not so as regards Ireland. (Applause). I believe that when we are considering this great question, we ought not to forget the people of Ireland. (Hear, hear).

Now, gentlemen, to turn to the resolution and the amendment, I sincerely trust that a solution will be found which will enable this resolution to be carried unanimously. (Hear, hear). It is possible that some of the English delegates may feel that by assenting to the resolution, they may be straining the letter of their instructions. I would ask them to consider whether it will be straining the spirit of their instructions. In my judgment the situation has been profoundly modified from that existing at the time when we received our instructions, by the resolution passed on Monday last. That resolution recognized the duty of the colonies to participate in the defence of the Empire. (Applause).

I should like to say, as a keen advocate for many years of Imperial Federation, that we in the Mother Country will not accept any substantial contribution from the colonies until we are prepared to give the colonies voice in the control of the expenditure. (Cheers). That resolution was adopted unanimously by a considerable sacrifice of opinion on the part of some of our colonial colleagues. Are we English delegates to make no sacrifice in return? (Hear, hear.) If we refuse to give any consideration to that policy which our colonial colleagues have so much at heart, this Congress will end in failure; if on the other hand a solution can be found agreeable both to the supporters of the resolution and of the amendment, this Congress will end as it began with the most important step in the direction of Imperial union, a desire for which has been so common a feature in our discussion, and to the cause of which some of us at any rate, have devoted and intend to devote the best energies of our lives. (Prolonged cheers).

THE CHAIRMAN: I quite agree. (Cheers). I have now the pleasure of announcing to you the receipt of another telegram from New York, by the kindness of the Montreal Herald, stating that the Shamrock is still leading with the second mile completed, and that the Reliance has apparently not reduced the lead. (Cheers).

I will now call upon Mr. Cockshutt, as the mover of the resolution. He has the privilege of replying.

Mr. Cockshutt on arising to reply was received with cheers.

MR. COCKSHUTT (of the Toronto Board of Trade): My Lord and Gentlemen: Allow me before proceeding, for a few moments to dissect some of the arguments advanced by Sir William Holland; to congratulate the



members of the Congress that they have risen, as I requested them, to the occasion, and debated it almost from start to finish on the plane that we endeavored to introduce. The speakers, without any exception, have stuck very largely to the text in hand, and the clouds have not been raised. On this I congratulate you. I will not weary you now with more than a very few remarks, but I wish it to be distinctly understood in closing that in not accepting the words of Sir William Holland yesterday morning, I think that our position as Canadians was fully justified by the speech he had delivered. (Hear, hear). If we had accepted at that time the words Sir William Holland interjected into our resolution, and had supposed that his speech was in support of that resolution, I myself, should have felt as a fool. (Hear, hear). No speech, like the speech Sir William Holland delivered, could have been given in support of a resolution such as the resolution I introduced. I have had the honor and pleasure of meeting Sir William Holland on a former occasion. He knows me, I presume, to be a dyed-in-the-wool protectionist, and I know him to be a bred-in-the-bone free trader, and there is no unity probably between those two opposites. At the same time we are here and we are not afraid to meet every argument that free trade can hurl at our heads. (Applause).

I wish to draw the attention of the gentlemen of this Congress, and of Sir William himself, to the difference between the attitude of the Canadian and colonial delegates on this great question, and to the attitude of some of those delegates that range themselves under his banner. What is the position of the Canadian delegates to-day? We came down here, sir, I was elected as the leader of the Canadians,—and we had not arrived at a single decision when we came into this room. The whole thing was open. There were ten resolutions from Canadian Chambers, and within two hours we had a resolution upon the table written in type that embodied the opinion of the Canadian Boards from Vancouver to Halifax. (Applause). True, we did not include our friend from Victoria, but I believe he will presently recognize, if he has not done so already, that he made a mistake in breaking away from the rest of the Dominion. There is a little bit of water between us, but we hope that Victoria will yet be with us, but whether she is or not, we tie down no man. I must say, however, that every Canadian, so far as I have met, came here with a free and irresponsible privilege of giving expression to his view. I have the honor to represent the Toronto Board with seven hundred city members and two hundred members drawn from various parts of the province. I am also associated with the Brantford Board with its 250 members, and I can say that I came here without one single trammel to hear the best thunderbolts that could be uttered by the free trade advocates. How was it, gentlemen, that we were not chained down? Our Board knew that if we could not stick to our guns in words, that we had a mountain of facts built up here in this country by the practice of protection, and that there was not one single danger of a Canadian delegate being deflected from the wishes of his Board. We have come here untrammelled; but the British delegates I find come to me and say, "We are with you in spirit, but we are sorry that we are tied down by our Chamber." I contend that that is not the proper spirit to come to a discussion with business men. (Hear, hear). All the arguments that can be advanced pro and con on a question of such vital importance as this—are all these arguments to count for nothing? Are you coming here from across the seas chained down before you have heard any argument and before you see the country? (Applause.) I think, gentlemen, that this is not true. I would recommend the gentlemen

who have come over here tied down by their Chambers, that in addition to bringing their fiscal system and their physical systems, that they also have a wireless system attached to their person, or put in their tail pockets so that they might keep in touch with their Chambers and tell them how the argument is going, and ask them whether they are at liberty to change their view. (Laughter). I contend that it is not justice to this Congress to come here in this way.

Now, to deal with some of the points mentioned by Sir William Holland. He makes this great mistake—a mistake, I trust, you will all grasp. They look upon the English market as a liability. We look upon the British market as one of the best assets they have got, and which is an asset that the colonies, and not only the colonies, but every civilized power in the world are ready to pay to get into. (Hear, hear.) Well, gentlemen, as soon as the British can recognize the difference between his market being a liability and an asset, the trouble will be largely obviated. The weedy Titan will cease to totter under his more than superhuman load, because he will have shoved parts of the cargo on to the back of the other fellow. That is where he will be—part of the cargo will be shunted, and it is Great Britain's own fault to-day if she is not making an asset out of her market instead of a liability. (Applause).

They seem to think it is a liability. I submit this proposition as a business man, that I would rather undertake the purchase of a four-penny loaf, with five-pence in my pocket, than a three-penny loaf, with two-pence-half-penny, in my pocket. That is exactly the condition. If you adopt the policy we propose, it will stop a large amount of this talk about your wage-earners in the Old Country having to pay more for the loaf. It will not be dearer, I believe, but you will be saved the difference, and you will be helping your own citizens to build up this Empire, and you will retain at the same time both your citizens and your capital. Now, if Sir William Holland will look at this for a moment from a Canadian standpoint, it will be the chance of a lifetime. We hesitate, therefore, at the addition that this amendment has made to the resolution. We hesitate, and if necessary will divide the Congress on that resolution, because I do not think that we, as Canadians, can draw back. We have placed that resolution before the Congress, and I am bound by all that is right towards my fellow-delegates that I must insist upon that resolution, and I trust that Sir William Holland will modify his views so that we can come into line, but, if not, then we must have a vote by Chambers, and we must see exactly where we stand, and nothing short of a definite pronouncement upon this great principle can satisfy us. And I wish it to be understood that in our resolution both preferential tariffs and bounties are included, for mutual benefit. I wish to say to every British Chamber that it is safe to accept that resolution. In that resolution we use the words "a substantial advantage shall be given to all parts of the Empire." Is not Great Britain in that? We think that Great Britain is included in that. Isn't every colony in that? If it cannot be shown that there is a solid advantage to every one of the parts of the British Empire we do not ask them to accept it. We do not see that there is much in the words of our friend to object to, but coming from Manchester, we found we could not accept them without explanations. ("Oh, oh, oh.") I believe the speech of Sir William Holland, which was delivered yesterday, on this resolutely justified our suspicions. ("Oh, oh.")

I do not desire now to prolong the debate. I have just been spoken to by some of my friends on the platform, and I find that some of our English friends object to the words I have used with regard to their being tied down. Now, I need them in no offensive



sense, but simply to express my opinion that we ought to come to a Congress such as this with an open mind. We Canadians have approached it in that way, and I do not wish to be understood as criticising the action of the Chambers in any way. I think it was putting the delegates themselves in a delicate position, and I was really sympathetic with them that I was endeavoring to express, that they should come to this Congress and not be able to express their own minds as they might wish to do.

Gentlemen, I thank you for the kind hearing you have given me both to-day and on a previous occasion, and in moving this resolution I did it in what I believed to be the very best interests of the British Empire and not of Canada alone. The whole Empire is included in the resolution, and unless the whole Empire is fully understood to be so included, then I do not understand the resolution I have been moving.

The CHAIRMAN: In the interests of a wise solution of the great question we have been debating, and for the credit of this Congress, and for the true expression of our mutual sentiments, and regard personally towards one another, it is expressly desirable that our proceedings should terminate with a resolution which should be passed *nemine contradicente*. You have heard Mr. Cockshutt and the representatives who, like himself, represent a large body of opinion. You have also heard Sir William Holland, and he represents a body of opinion, which, as you know, is but imperfectly represented in this hall. Now, gentlemen, that is the situation, and I think we shall all agree to this, that if one man should come amongst us, who can by his wisdom and his influence bring us to a common conclusion, he is a man to whom we shall all be greatly indebted. That man is present here—Lord Strathcona. (Applause.)

LORD STRATHCONA: Lord Brassey and Gentlemen-delegates of this Congress: As you all know I have taken no part in the discussions that have been had within the last four days, having confined myself to a few introductory remarks as honorary president of the Congress, in the forenoon of Monday last, when we first met here. And I certainly would not intervene at this time were it not that I knew I could count on your great indulgence and consideration, and that I knew that each and all, whether coming from the Mother Country or from the colonies over the seas, or from this colony and this nation of Canada—I knew that you had all the one object in view, that is, of doing what, in your opinion, was for the best interest of the whole Empire. We do not look to one locality or another, but we must judge of what is required under the different circumstances of the different portions of the Empire for their welfare and then consider how this can be made to subserve all the interests of the Empire.

I have no doubt, I feel well assured that Sir William Holland and his friends, who are spoken of as being of the Manchester school, are quite as sincere and quite as determined, so far as lies with them to advance everything that is for the advantage of the Empire, as we Canadians are (applause), and when there is earnestness and determination to make the best of the position on both sides, we cannot fail to come to a satisfactory conclusion. That it will be so on this occasion I feel very well assured. This Congress is a most important one. It comes at a most auspicious time and under most favorable circumstances. Our King, His Majesty, as one determined to do his utmost in the interests of peace, went on a mission to several of the European nations, beginning with the good old friend of England, Portugal, and closing with our neighbours the French, with whom we ought surely in common interest to have sympathy, and endeavour to be allied as closely in com-

merce as possible. (Applause). And yet further determined to make the best he possibly could in the interest of our dearly loved Motherland and all the outlying branches, the sisters and brothers arising from it and having connection with it, he went to our neighbours across the channel—I am speaking now as one who has been resident in Great Britain for some time back—our friends and fellow subjects, the Irish (applause). You know what reception he got there. It would be impossible that any Monarch, President or anyone representing a great Nation and a great Empire could have been received with more cordiality or with that feeling that came from the bottom of the heart that they were proud of the King and proud to be allied with such a Government and such an Empire. (Applause). This effect will be not only momentary, but it will have a lasting influence on the course of affairs of the Empire. (Hear, hear). But I now come back to this Congress. On rising I had not intended to say as much as I have now said, but merely to make a suggestion. This Congress will live in the memory of commercial men as one of the most important, perhaps the most important, of those great Congresses that have been held as commercial Parliaments in the United Kingdom and now, following a new departure, in this Dominion of Canada. I think it is a most happy thing indeed that we do meet here on this occasion. (Hear, hear.) We have been able to hear the expressions of Canadian opinion from Mr. Cockshutt, and we give him credit for desiring to speak with every regard for the opinions of all others who might not take exactly the same views or be on all fours of his opinion. (Applause). We in Canada are apt to express ourselves somewhat forcibly because we are very earnest, but we know our friends on the other side are also not less earnest, and we have, as I have said already, but one object in view. Were it not so I would have hesitated to be here addressing you on the present occasion. It is that of endeavouring to find out a *modus vivendi* which we can each and all approve of, and not only consent to, but cordially and heartily endorse. I think I cannot do better than to just put before you the resolution which I have in my mind and which I have no doubt, I cannot otherwise than believe, will be accepted by all those who have spoken and those who have listened to the most eloquent addresses we have heard in this assemblage. And I venture to say that in no gathering of commercial men, in no gathering of politicians if you will, in no assemblage of people coming together for one object, has there been more eloquence displayed than in this Congress. I will now, with your permission, Mr. President and Gentlemen, move the resolution, which is in these terms:

"It is resolved that in the opinion of this Congress the bonds of the British Empire shall be materially strengthened and a union of the various parts of His Majesty's Dominions greatly consolidated by the adoption of a commercial policy based upon the principle of mutual benefit whereby each component part of the Empire would receive a substantial advantage in trade as the result of its national relationship, due consideration being given to the fiscal and industrial needs of the component parts of the Empire;

"That this Congress urges upon His Majesty's Government the appointment by them of a special commission composed of representatives of Great Britain and her colonies and India to consider the possibility of thus increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire and the trading facilities within the Empire and with foreign countries."

Without further preface than to say how cordially I appreciate your kind consideration for myself, I now move the resolution. (Loud applause).

MR. COCKSHUTT (Toronto Board of Trade): Lord Brassey: I have very much pleasure on behalf of the Canadian friends in accepting the compromise proposed by Lord Strathcona. (Cheers). So far as our good friends from Manchester are concerned the hat-

shot is buried. I have no personal feeling and if any thought I had I trust they will disabuse their minds. I am as good friends with the free traders of this Congress as the protectionists, but we are just having them here under the same conditions that we have been under in London on three or four different occasions. We in our turn have been snowed under and I know it is not pleasant—I have been there myself—but the best of feeling prevailed there and prevails here, and I have much pleasure on behalf of my friends in accepting the suggestion of our friend, Lord Stratheona, who is our esteemed representative in the Old Country. (Cheers.)

**LORD BRASSEY:** I will now have the pleasure of calling on one who has all the time been doing invaluable service in a quiet way in connection with this matter. He is a gentleman to whom we owe a very great deal indeed, Mr. Gillespie.

**MR. E. J. GILLESPIE** (of London), on rising in response to the chairman's call was received with great applause. He said: My Lord and Gentlemen: This call comes upon me entirely as a surprise, because it had been arranged that the seconder of the resolution should speak, and I feel in a very peculiar position, because the matter is entirely inpromptu. Still I stand in this position and I would ask that the seconder be allowed to formally do so. I want to express my thanks for the kind manner in which you have acted towards me, I speak now of the Canadian delegates and the Canadian committee. At the beginning of the week when I came into the hall, I thought there was not much chance of reaching an agreement. But we got to work—the Manchester delegates, the London delegates and also the Canadian, and we sat together in the committee. We did not get very far at the beginning, but after a little while I was induced to ask my own delegates and the Manchester delegates to retire, and the Canadian delegates did me the honor to ask me to preside over them. I left them under the sub-chairmanship of Mr. Cockshutt and in half an hour he came out and, to my surprise, I was told to announce to my own colleagues that the delegates had been able to get one single paragraph out of ten resolutions representing the whole of Canada, I thought that was very satisfactory and called my own committee together and found the same willingness to co-operate and thus we were successful. Manchester, I was not able at first to get into line because of certain issues, but in what conversations I had with Sir William Holland and his friends they treated me with the greatest possible courtesy. You see that I am not talking to the subject of the resolution.

I endeavored to get the committee to secure harmony and bring in a unanimous resolution (because I felt that if it were telegraphed to England to-morrow, things would be in a different position and we would be strengthening the home Government's hands. We have done something for the issues for which we came here. I thank you again for your courtesy, and now I will make way for the gentleman who will second the acceptance of the suggestion of our friend and mediator Lord Stratheona. (Applause.)

**LORD BRASSEY:** I desire to offer an apology to Mr. Cohen for having called upon Mr. Gillespie out of order. Mr. Gillespie would, I am sure, at some later stage, have been pleased to address to you a few words. I can only plead in extenuation that the agenda paper which is put before me is of the most imperfect description. The information furnished for the guidance of the chair in the agenda paper is most rudimentary.

**MR. N. L. COHEN** (London): In three sentences, gentlemen, I hope you will allow me to say what Mr. Gillespie charged me to say just now. He asked me to tell you first, on behalf of the London Chamber of

Commerce and of my friends and colleagues, that we have great pleasure in accepting the resolution moved by Lord Stratheona. (Cheers.) That is my first sentence. The next two sentences I am sure you will have patience to allow me to submit to you. I must say as a matter of personal explanation that as regards what I said on Tuesday in seconding our previous motion I can only say, gentlemen, in a spirit which I think you will appreciate, that what I have said, I have said. (Applause.) I accept this resolution most heartily and in the sense in which Mr. Cockshutt was kind enough to indicate, that preferential tariffs ought to be included as a subject of inquiry in this investigation. I will coincide in the words of one of the younger statesmen of our present generation. We desire to be on friendly terms with all the powers of Europe. (I would substitute "with all schools of thought,") but we place our colonies and dependencies before them all. (Cheers.)

**SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND**, on rising, was greeted with cheers. He said: Lord Brassey, Lord Stratheona and Gentlemen: If I may most respectfully say so, we seem to be getting tied into a bit of a knot. The regular course of procedure, so far as I can see is that the amendment which I had the honor to move yesterday, should first have been disposed of before a new substantive resolution could be submitted to the meeting. But, I heard from Mr. Cockshutt just now, and with a little surprise, that the hatchet was buried. Well, if it is buried, it has not been buried very long, because about a quarter of an hour ago he was brandishing it about in a very furious manner (laughter), but if it is buried I am not going to disinter it. When I heard the words of Lord Stratheona just now, and saw that there was an appeal to me, I felt that I could not afford to disregard the appeal from such a quarter coming under such circumstances. What Lord Stratheona now submits adds to the original resolution after the word "fiscal," the words "and industrial." I see in that addition a proof on the part of the mover of the resolution that there is a desire to meet the views of those who are associated with the amendment. I, therefore, accept the insertion—(cheers)—of those two words, and withdraw the final words of my amendment. ("Hear, hear"). That places me in a position to support the resolution moved by Lord Stratheona, and I do so with a view to promote a peaceful and happy conclusion to this great debate. (Applause and cheers.)

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I will ask all those in favor of the resolution, which has been moved, to signify the same in the usual manner.

Carried with unanimity. The result was received with loud cheering.

**THE CHAIRMAN** (Lord Brassey): Gentlemen: I have been asked at this stage in the proceedings to say a few words. ("Hear, hear.") My first sentiment is one of recognition of the great credit due to the Congress for the manner in which it has supported the Chair in all its rulings, and in the endeavour to conduct our proceedings in a satisfactory and orderly manner. I desire to express my most grateful thanks to my colleagues of the London Chambers, who have from time to time relieved me of my duties in the Chair, and when they have taken the Chair, I have no doubt, have given you the greatest satisfaction—"hear, hear,"—and sometimes made you regret I came back again. ("No, no.") I desire to express my high appreciation of the lofty tone, intellectual power, and general ability which has marked so very many of the speeches delivered to us, and with those words of well-merited compliment, I might, I think, very properly conclude what I have to say. Indeed, I think I should be exercising a very wise discretion if I do not now trouble you, as I believe I shall be called upon this evening to say something of what I

might say now. I will conclude by saying I thank you all very much, and as an old member of Parliament, I desire to express my admiration of your ability; and now I think it will be the desire of all of you we should conclude our proceeding in the way we did in Australia, the way we do in the old Meerland, the way you do in Canada when you bring a good business to a good conclusion, and that is, to sing, "God Save the King."

The national anthem was then sung, and was followed by hurrahs, and three cheers for Lord Strathcona, three cheers for Lord Brassey, and the inevitable "tiger."

**THE PRESIDENT:** With a view to making the utmost possible use of the whole length of the day, the delegates interested in the cattle trade will meet to discuss the resolutions in which they are interested, during the luncheon hour.

#### IMPORTATION OF CANADIAN CATTLE INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

During the luncheon hour the discussion was held on the resolution respecting the embargo on Canadian cattle in England.

**MR. ROBERT BICKERDIKE, M.P. (Montreal):** In introducing this resolution I feel that it is our duty to place the matter before the delegates in such a shape as will convince them that we are not anxious at all that our stockers should go to Great Britain, but we are anxious to have the stigma of diseased cattle removed. My resolution is:

"That the present restrictions on the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain are unjust, so far as they are based on the dread of disease existing among such cattle, since any outbreak of disease is as rigidly guarded against in Canada as in the Mother Country, and no infectious disease exists in Canada; and that such restrictions are also undesirable as they result in interference with the free development of trade, decreased supply of cattle and increased cost of meat to the British consumer, and that in the opinion of this Congress, the present regulations of H. M. Board of Agriculture, so far as they relate to the importation into the United Kingdom of Canadian live cattle, under reasonable precautions, should at once be reconsidered."

In proposing this very important resolution I wish to first point out when and why the embargo was placed on Canadian cattle. The rapid development of the export live stock trade from Canada to Great Britain in the early seventies, naturally gave rise to considerable alarm amongst the stock breeders, especially in some sections of England and Ireland, lest Canadian competitors should render home production unprofitable. More especially did the British farmer fear, as well he might, the introduction of contagious diseases for no country had suffered more from rinderpest and other cattle plagues than did Great Britain and Ireland. Consequently we expected that the time would come when an effort would be made to at least partially exclude this new and threatening competitor, and it soon became apparent that on account of the existence of cattle disease in some countries, it would require but a flimsy excuse to include the cattle of the Dominion in the schedule that had already been declared against the United States and some other foreign countries.

On November the 4th, 1893, the British Government issued an order requiring all Canadian cattle landed in the United Kingdom, to be slaughtered within a limited time, at the port of debarkation. Before this action Canadian cattle had been free to be moved from place to place in the United Kingdom, and it was possible to hold them over from one market to another, if prices were not considered good. At the same time, there was considerable trade done in the stockers, which as you know are half fed animals, which Scottish and English farmers bought and finished. The ground of the British Government's action was the alleged discovery of a case of pleuro-pneumonia in an animal from Can-

ada that had been landed in Scotland. In connection with this case, after a thorough investigation had been made, it was proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that this animal had contracted the disease in Scotland. Efforts were at once made to secure the withdrawal of the scheduling on the ground that pleuro-pneumonia was a disease unknown in Canada, that it had never existed, nor did it exist at the time, and I might just say here, that it has never existed since, and no better proof to that effect is necessary than the fact that during the past twelve years over a million and a half of Canadian cattle have been slaughtered in England and Scotland without a single case of disease being detected, or even a suspicion that any of the Canadian cattle were diseased.

Sir, there are many in Canada, including myself, who say long may this embargo remain, if only a valid reason is given for it; yet why should the Mother Country stigmatize our cattle as unhealthy, and thus perpetuate what they know was an error from the beginning. Fortunately, however, such are the attractions of the country, and the great possibilities of this development, that we have not suffered so much in our immigration as we might have, or in fact, as we expected we would have because of the unjust aspersions thrown on the healthfulness of our herds. It is absolutely certain that no cattle plague exists in Canada. Surely the time has come when we may expect as a matter of simple justice that this embargo would be removed, and our live stock allowed entry into any market in the British Empire wherever the Union Jack flies. Surely it is time that all doubts be removed from the minds of agriculturists who would seek homes in Canada if they were assured that no ruinous cattle disease exists or can exist in this vast country, which in time, and a very short time too, will not only supply the grain food but the meat supply sufficient to feed a large proportion of the inhabitants of the globe.

We, the Canadian farmers, claim that the embargo is simply persecution on the part of the British Board of Agriculture. This Board of Agriculture has unfortunately, for years, and are at the present time in our opinion, perverting the facts in connection with this Canadian grievance of ours, and resorting to the mean subterfuge, of using equivocal language, for the purpose of continuing a system of protection not against disease, but which has for the sole object the prevention of competition in live stock from the Dominion.

Sir, I claim that their persistent ignoring of all evidence, their repudiation of all fair trade principles, and their denials of justice to Canada, proves them to be either wanting in statesmanship, or false to the interests of the British Empire of which Canada is at least an important pillar. That Board is, I contend, unfit to hold such an important position under the British Government and they should be overruled by the British people in their band and unpatriotic course. If further argument was required to prove that no good grounds exist for placing or maintaining this unjust embargo on the healthiest cattle in the world, it is to be found in the fact, that during the past twelve years over three million cattle have been exported from Canada to Great Britain and the United States, without a single case of contagious pleuro-pneumonia having been discovered. Canada is to-day, I repeat, as she always has been, entirely free from any destructive plague, and the British Board of Agriculture knows that well. Yet for reasons that some think are those of expediency, the embargo remains. It may be that Canada's direct interests suffer little from the embargo, but this does not detract from the truth of the fact that the embargo is unjust, that it is suspiciously like a subterfuge, and if it has not diminished Canada's



credit, it certainly injures her reputation. Canadians are the last people to object to any other Government's availing itself of any fiscal system that to it seems good. We are not in the habit of intruding our opinions into other people's affairs. If Great Britain thinks protection good, we are glad to say that it is her business, but if only a patent piece of protective legislation is devised and Canada's products are decried in order to obscure the fact that the protection exists, then a wrong is done. (Hear, hear). The British Board of Agriculture are within their rights in stifling competition, but they are not within their rights when they would accense their would-be competitors from Canada of a desire to sell diseased cattle for British consumption. (Hear, hear).

Sir, there may be and probably is, some undisclosed political reason influencing the British Government in maintaining these purely protectional restrictions on the importation of Canadian cattle; otherwise it is difficult to understand it, but let the political influence be what it may, it is difficult for us to imagine any political consideration which would influence the present Imperial Parliament to refuse a direct request of loyal Canada, to abolish restrictions which are hurtful to our financial interests and offensive to our imperial sentiments. (Applause). It should be remembered that Canada is no foreign country. We are and we claim to be an integral part of the Empire, loyal to the core, in whole-hearted sympathy with British sentiments and imperial aspirations. (Cheers). Britain's troubles have become our troubles, Britain's wars are our wars. When an insult is offered to Great Britain it is also offered to us as part and parcel of the British Empire; and, sir, it is almost like destroying our birth-right to steal our good name, and to brand us as having within our borders cattle that are not fit to go to Great Britain or any other country.

But, sir, notwithstanding this injury and the stigma under which we have suffered for the past twelve years, our resources have been developed, our country has prospered, the wealth of Canada has increased to such an extent that to-day our Dominion is better known, more progressive, more enlightened, more attractive and immensely more successful than it has been since Confederation. (Applause).

Sir, we ask the English people now to deal squarely by us in this matter, to treat us as part and parcel of the British Empire, and our people will then become more prosperous, more contented, more united, and if it were possible, even still more loyal to the British Crown.

Sir, when it looked at one time as if the British flag was in danger, and when our friends in the Homeland sounded the bugle call to arms, several thousand of our young men fell into line and shouldered their rifle. Our boys fought shoulder to shoulder with your boys on the battlefield of South Africa in defence of the Empire. Many of those young men never came back, and there are in Canada to-day many vacant chairs. We were proud that you offered us an opportunity to share in that defence, and feel sure that if the opportunity should occur again, our people would again take advantage of it and once more rally to the assistance of the Motherland in our own modest way. (Hear, hear). But, sir, I believe that the time has arrived when it is our duty to inform the Imperial Government of Great Britain politely, respectfully, but firmly, that Canada has something else to dispose of, something else for sale other than the lives of her young men in defence of the Empire. (Hear, hear).

Mr. J. LOCKIE WILSON (Alexandria, Ontario): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have very much pleasure in seconding this resolution. Coming as I do from the Province of Ontario, which is the breeding ground of the better class of stock in this country, I am in a

position to speak with some assurance with regard to the views of the farmers, and as a member of the Canadian Live Stock Association, and a member of the Executive of the Farmers' Association, with authority as to their feelings in this connection. Ontario, as I said before, is the breeding ground, for the better class of cattle in this North American continent, and in order to prove what I say in this connection, at the time of the Chicago World's Fair and the Pan-American Exhibition, our cattle swept the ring. Now, we feel that an injustice has been done to our stockmen. Our cattle, as has been iterated and reiterated, are the healthiest in the world; they are absolutely free from any of the contagious cattle diseases that are mentioned in the "Diseased Animals Act." A large number of pure bred cattle are supplied by us to the United States and various other countries, and we feel that a great injury, through the action of the Mother Country, has been done in placing unfair restrictions upon our cattle trade.

The income accruing to the Dominion of Canada from the live stock industry is greater than that from any other branch of our business.

The removal of the restrictions of which complaint is made would prove a great boon both to the British consumer as well as to the stockmen of Canada.

We want to be placed in position to send in our cattle to our over-sea market under as favorable conditions as are granted to cattle-men of Scotland or Ireland. When our cattle are sound and healthy, why should they be discriminated against?

The farmers ask the men from Great Britain, and especially the members of Parliament attending this Congress, to lend their powerful aid in assisting to wipe out this unnecessary restriction. The shipping of stockers into the British market is not of such vital importance to our people, yet we feel if Canadian farmers desire to send their stockers into the British market they should be allowed that privilege. While, at the same time, many of us think it would be better for Canada that the cattle of this country should be fed at home and shipped into the British market in the best possible condition. The Imperial Board of Agriculture under the Act that came into force some years ago has been changed somewhat. On the 1st of August of this year it requires that our cattle must be landed at what is called the "foreign wharf." They are treated as the cattle belonging to foreigners, and we are absolutely obliged under this law to slaughter our cattle within ten days after their arrival. In a falling market this obligation at times has proved a great loss to us. If we could send them into the interior, as in the years previous to the embargo, and hold them for a higher price, great benefit would accrue to the stockmen of this country. You were telling us at this Congress that the bonds of Empire must be strengthened and mutual trade within the Empire encouraged; this cattle embargo does not seem to me to be travelling in that direction. We ask the British Government (would it be too strong a term, if I said, we demand) to give this question new consideration. It has been shown year after year that our cattle are absolutely free from the contagious diseases referred to in the Imperial Act. If the English farmer and the Irish farmer want to put a tax upon our cattle we cannot complain of that, but we cannot allow the brand of disease to remain against our stock when no disease exists. There is neither jot nor tittle of evidence to justify the statement that it does. I submit, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, that our laws so far as infectious diseases are concerned are as strict as those passed by the British Government. We have a Chief of our Veterinary department, Dr. Rutherford, who is an earnest, energetic and sincere man, and a large staff of officials under him, and particular pains are taken



when anything in the shape of disease is suggested, to make full inquiry thereinto. These officials, so far as the contagious diseases referred to are concerned, have had absolutely nothing to do, except to keep a vigilant watch. If there is a shade of a shadow of a doubt in the minds of the Imperial Board we ask them to send their most efficient veterinary surgeons to this country. Send them through the heart of the great stock-breeding Province of Ontario and over our Western prairies, and let there be an end forever put to this uncertainty which seems to prevail in their minds. British Inspectors have watched, as has been stated by the mover, a million and a half of our cattle that were slaughtered in your ports and there has not been a case of disease discovered during the term of the embargo. (Hear, hear.) I trust then the members of this Congress will go back to Great Britain and see to it that this great wrong is righted. We want you to aid us, for our cause is just and our earnest must not slacken into play. Men of thought and men of action clear the way. Aid us in wiping out this law that needs resistance and this cause that needs assistance. The cattle that graze around the farm homes of Ontario are the finest and healthiest in the world. Agriculture is the basic industry of Canada—the farmers of the Province of Ontario alone have invested over a thousand millions of dollars in their industry. The export of animals and their product brought back to our country this past fiscal year nearly seventy millions—in all our agricultural exports amounted to \$114,000,000 (one hundred and fourteen million dollars), so you can readily understand, Mr. President, that when such a wrong is done to our farmers, the whole Dominion is seriously injured.

With the hope that this Congress will heartily endorse this resolution, I thank you.

MR. BICKERDIKE, M.P.: With the permission of the Chair I would like to place upon record a certificate I have brought with me from Professor McEachran. I have many of these, but it is not necessary to place more than this one upon the record. The certificate is as follows:—

"I have no hesitation in declaring that no contagious pleuro-pneumonia nor any other contagious bovine disease exists or has existed at any time on any of the farms from which the cattle in question came. I further declare that having been a resident of Canada for nearly thirty years, actively engaged in the practice and teaching of veterinary science, being constantly in direct and indirect communication with veterinarians throughout the entire Dominion, being extensively engaged in stock raising, coming in contact with agriculturists constantly from ocean to ocean, in addition to the official and other reports which reach me as Chief Inspector and Advisor of the Government in matters relating to health of animals, and seeing, it may be added, the correspondence in the Veterinary advice columns of agricultural papers, I am in a position to say that if contagious pleuro-pneumonia or any other contagious disease in cattle, existed in any herd in Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, I should from one or other of those various sources have had intimations of it.

I am in a position, therefore, to make the above declaration that no such disease exists in Canada, and that during the thirty years of my residence in the country, no such disease has existed.

(Signed) D. McEACHRAN,  
Chief Inspector.

PROFESSOR ANDREW SMITH,  
Etc., Etc., Etc., Toronto.

I want to mention one thing that we feel aggrieved about in Montreal and other parts of Canada, and that

is, that the Home Government won't even allow our Canadian beef to enter into competition in the army contracts. Now, I would just read to you the following and you will at once see how unfair it is. This is a special cable to the Montreal *Herald*. It is headed: "No Canadian beef will be included in army meat contracts—Home producers jealous."

"London, April 6th.—In the House of Commons to-day Sir Gilbert Parker asked Mr. Brodrick if it was his intention to permit Canadian beef to be included in the army meat contracts. The Secretary for War replied that the question had been carefully considered, but it would be detrimental to the home producer to allow competition from Canadian meat, and it would be refused."

Then again on the 24th of March we have the following by special cable from the special correspondent of the Montreal *Star* in London:

"London, March 24th.—The statement of the Secretary of War, Right Hon. Sir John Brodrick, in the House, in reply to Mr. Alfred Davies, shows that the British War office still excludes Canadian beef from the army contracts. Mr. Brodrick stated that army beef must be British or Irish grown, and must not be from animals killed at Deptford or elsewhere, within ten days of arrival from abroad."

"Mr. Brodrick added, in typical war office phraseology, that it would not appear that anything else was required to make the terms of the contract clearer."

I have also another despatch from London by special cable to the Montreal *Herald*.

"London, March 3rd.—The Government is introducing live stock from Australia, Texas and Madagascar, claiming that Canadian cattle are unsuited for the Transvaal."

That was the reason we were anxious to have the matter brought up to-day. As no one else seems anxious to speak on the subject, and as I am sure we are all of one mind on it, I think it should be put to a vote at once. It is very necessary that the stigma of disease should be removed from our Canadian cattle.

THE CHAIRMAN: All those in favor of the resolution please say "Aye."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Congress resumed at 2.30 p.m., General Laurie, M.P., in the Chair.

#### METRIC SYSTEM.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have several resolutions to dispose of yet. Great importance naturally attached to the consideration of the fiscal question, but I hope it will not spoil the interest in the other matters which are to come before us. We now come to resolution No. 40, and if, as I understand, resolutions 40 to 47 are all one, I understand Mr. Parkes will speak on the subject as referring to the whole question of the metric system.

A DELEGATE: The resolutions are not lumped.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: If not I will deal with them separately. I will take up number 40 now. We cannot take parts of resolutions. We must either take them separately or as a whole.

A DELEGATE: Take them as a whole.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: Then I shall ask Mr. Parkes to speak on them.

Mr. EDNEZZER PARKES, M.P. (Birmingham Chamber of Commerce) moved:—

"That this Congress, having had under its consideration the following resolution adopted at the Conference held in London during the months of June, July, and August, 1902, between His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Prime Ministers of the self-governing Colonies of the British Empire, namely:

"That it is advisable to adopt the metric system of weights and measures for use within the Empire, and the Prime Ministers urge the governments represented at this Conference to give consideration to the question of its early adoption."

Hereby expresses its hearty concurrence therewith, and urges upon the Government of the United Kingdom the necessity for legislative measures being taken in the interests of British trade and commerce to make the use of metric weights and measures compulsory."

Mr. PARKES said. I may say that the different Chambers interested in this question met in the committee-room yesterday, and those present decided that their views would be adopted in the passage of the Birmingham resolution. As regards currency it was regarded as so outside practical politics that we had better leave it alone for the present and simply content ourselves with the question of weights and measures. Now, I think, gentlemen, there are three points which will have a very great influence on the trade and commerce of the Empire. One of these is that of a fast steamship line direct to the colonies, another is that of postal reform, and a third is the adoption of the metric system between our country and the colonies. I think these are all very important questions and, as you know, this question of the metric system is one of the subjects which have been discussed over and over again, not only by your Chambers in this country, but also by the English Chambers of Commerce year after year, perhaps for ten or a dozen years. I am sorry to say we have not got much further either in the prosecution or general acceptance of our ideas. There is no doubt we are gaining ground in England on this question. (Hear, hear). I believe there is a consensus of opinion that our system is a bad one, and when we come to the question as to what is the best system to put in its place, then of course there is a great difference of opinion. Some advocate one plan and others advocate another plan. I believe the experts are not agreed as to which is the best. We have Lord Kelvin on the one side and Sir Frederick Bramble on the other, and we have other authorities who are very diverse in their opinions on this question, but there is no doubt of the fact there is a consensus of opinion that the present state of things is a bad one and requires to be altered. (Hear, hear). Well now, it is very certain England and the colonies cannot hope to launch a new system entirely on the world. They must either go on with their present system or adopt the metric system. Well now, I believe we will find ourselves compelled before many years have elapsed to adopt a different system to our own, simply because we find the great nations of the world are adopting a different system. What about the United States? I believe it has adopted a law, providing that the metric system shall be adopted within a certain time. Whether they can carry that principle out in the United States remains to be seen. I think the time when it is to come into force is somewhere in about 12 months. It will make it exceedingly difficult for Canada, supposing the United States adopt this principle, to go on with the present system, and that, therefore, makes it very necessary that we should adopt some system analogous to the metric system without delay. I may say in reference to the progress of this matter in England that in the year 1900, 96 members of Parliament were in favor of it. In 1902 no less than 292 members of the British Parliament signed a memorial in favor of the metric system. I may say also that the board

schools of our country are teaching the metric system in their schools to a very large extent, and though we may not be able to adopt the system in our country at present, the best way to bring it about is to teach it to our children in the schools. Well, now our British Consuls all over the world nearly, report to us that we lose ground as a manufacturing country by not adopting the metric system, and they say that we very often lose contracts because foreign merchants who have the metric system will not put themselves to the trouble of transposing into the English system and therefore there is no doubt that in these countries we stand at a great disadvantage. And then I may refer to the fact which you know already I suppose, that nearly all the great nations of Europe, and Japan and South America have adopted this system which shows you how important it is for us to do it. There are now about four hundred and eighty millions of people in the commercial world who have adopted the metric system. If we wish to maintain our trade relations, it is our interest as a nation and Empire, to adopt this system. Of course, it would be a very great wrench at first to bring this about. Three or four years ago in the British House of Parliament, this question was brought up and it was made optional, that is to say it is not illegal for the people to use this system. But of course, the great point is when is it to be made compulsory? And if it is to be made compulsory, that is the whole point we have to debate at present. I understand that the people of Canada are prepared to make this system compulsory within one or two years. I understand that in one of the resolutions there is the idea of making it compulsory within two years, but as far as I understand the views of the English Chamber of Commerce they are not in favor of stating any definite time when it should be made compulsory. There would be I am afraid, a great demonstration of hostile public opinion in the British Islands if we were to say that it should come into force within two or three years. Therefore in the Birmingham resolution it was decided to say simply "compulsion" without fixing any definite time. It will be in the interests of trade and commerce to have it adopted as soon as possible. I am sure that an expression of opinion from this Congress would carry considerable weight to the minds of members of the British Parliament. The subject has been brought up time and again in the British Parliament, but there are many men in that body who are not engaged in trade and they simply laugh at the idea. As business men we are not here to laugh at the idea, and I hope you will send a strong expression of opinion to the British Parliament. I hope that it will not be long before this system is adopted, both in the interest of Canada and of the British Empire.

GENERAL LAURIE (Chairman): This is resolution No. 40 which we are now discussing, but the discussion covers the resolutions from 40 to 47, with the exception of No. 46. These resolutions deal with the subject of weights and measures, but No. 4 deals with currency also. That one will, therefore, be taken up separately, and in this way we will be enabled to deal separately with these subjects. I hope that each of the speakers will talk to the point and to the point only. I will now call upon Mr. Bell-Irving, of the Vancouver Board of Trade to second the resolution.

MR. HENRY BELL-IRVING (Vancouver Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: On behalf of the Vancouver Board of Trade I have much pleasure in withdrawing the Vancouver resolution No. 41, and I rise now to second the resolution of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, which I think is a better resolution than ours. I will cut my remarks very short indeed. I think it will be generally conceded that it is desirable to remove the drudgery which is involved in the present

system. The metric system is already in use in 24 civilized countries, and in this respect we are a generation behind them. The system was adopted in Germany in 1878. I happened to be there at the time and the difficulties involved in making the change were overcome very simply and easily. They very soon vanished although there was some grumbling at the time over the inconvenience. For a great gain we must be prepared to make some slight temporary sacrifice. It is a labor-saving device of universal application, and to be made effective should be made compulsory and that within a limited time. I venture to say that in this great assembly of commercial men from all parts of the Empire there is not one single man among you all who understands completely the system of weights and measures now in use in all parts of the British Empire. (Hear, hear). I do not think it would be putting it too strongly when I state that I believe our present system is unworthy of the greatest commercial nation of the world. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** I will now call upon Mr. Chesterman, of Sheffield, to address the Congress.

**MR. W. CHESTERMAN** (Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): I have had now some fifty years' experience in commercial manufactures in the use of the English yard measure, and while from a sentimental and national point of view, I would much prefer the yard should be the standard of measure rather than the meter, there is no doubt the metric basis is making great strides in the world, and we must bow to the course of circumstances. There is one little thing I should like to add. At the present moment there are only two measures in the civilized commercial world, the meter and the yard. If they were allowed to run side by side, and leave it to the fittest to survive, I have no hesitation in saying the yard would be the survivor. It is the greatest measure in use to-day. All measures are built on the British foot. In the Italian shipyards, where the English measures are prohibited, the plans are based on English models. The English foot goes into every market, and if the meter and the yard were used together, I believe the yard would eventually win out. When we come to currency, in adopting decimal currency, we are not asked to adopt the French franc. If England or the United States go for this and make it compulsory, then every other country will follow. I do not want the United States to go in front of us or us in front of them. I would rather that we add something to this resolution, if carried, and ask them to join us and make it compulsory at the same time, and then it would become universal.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Do you move an amendment, sir? I must either deal with the resolution or an amendment.

**MR. CHESTERMAN:** I would suggest:

"That our Government in dealing with this be requested to approach the United States, with the intention that it shall be adopted by the two nations conjointly."

I beg to move that as an amendment, unless Mr. Parkes will adopt it.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Is that amendment seconded?

**MR. H. H. BEDFORD** (Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): I second the amendment, and in doing so I don't wish to say very many words. The matter has been approved of by Chambers of Commerce throughout Great Britain by over 200 city and borough councils, by three hundred members of Parliament and by countless manufacturers and merchants. We in Sheffield are particularly interested in the adoption of the metric system, because in working in steel we find it

a very much better measure to work to than the inch, 1-16, 1-32 and 1-64 of an inch. We can work in our sheets to tenths of a millimeter with much more exactitude and certainty than with a gauge. Ganges very often vary, and therefore as a manufacturer, I second the amendment. At the present time we are obliged, in dealing with continental nations, to sell in millimeters and to manufacture in millimeters, and also to sell in kilograms; and this having two measures makes it, of course necessary to transpose one into the other, which is a loss of time and affords liability for error. It also necessitates the transposing of the English weights into foreign weights, which is likewise a loss of time, and there is the same liability to error. Besides, when you come to think, some pounds have sixteen ounces and others only twelve; stones have different weights, and the hundredweight is 112 pounds. The system is antiquated and unsuitable to our present needs. I don't know, after what has been said, that it is necessary to elaborate the subject further. I sincerely hope our members of Parliament will press this matter forward: it is a matter of national importance, and I have very great pleasure in seconding the amendment.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** You have heard the resolution proposed by Mr. Parkes, which is No. 40, and is by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Chesterman proposes an amendment:—

"That the British Government approach the United States Government, with the object of making the system compulsory in both countries at the same time."

**MR. PARKES:** I have no authority to alter the Birmingham resolution, and besides, you could not possibly get the English Parliament to put this measure into compulsory force at the same time as the United States, simply because the latter have already decided to make it compulsory in twelve months from now. I think we are all more or less united on the Birmingham resolution, and I would suggest we should carry it as it is, and if the meeting considers it necessary to add the amendment, we can make that a separate resolution at the end of the other. I think we might carry both resolutions separately.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Then I understood you are ready for the question on the amendment, that there should be added to the Birmingham resolution, "That the Government approach the United States Government with the object of making it compulsory in both countries at the same time." Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of this will please signify their assent. You understand me; I am coming back to the original question, but we will deal with the amendment, and if the amendment is carried, then of course the whole resolution will be submitted with the amendment added, but, if on the other hand the amendment is lost, we will discuss the main issue. I understand that that is the ordinary method. Therefore, I ask you now, those in favour of adding the amendment proposed by Mr. Chesterman will now signify their assent.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN** (after asking an expression of opinion from the Congress): I should be inclined to say "Lost," unless of course Mr. Chesterman challenges it.

**MR. CHESTERMAN:** No.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** I will now call upon Mr. Boulton to speak to the original motion.

**MR. S. B. BOULTON** (London Chamber): Mr. Chairman, I will say a few words on this subject in support of the original motion. Our friend (Mr. Chesterman) who has spoken just now has said that he had fifty years' experience with the yard system. Well, so have I, and I have had fifty years experience in my business with the other system also, and I infinitely prefer the metric system. I think if you consider the enormous

waste of time there is in all the calculations which we make to-day under the old barbarous system that you will agree with me it is time to get rid of it. We have 28 pounds to a quarter, four quarters to a cwt., and twenty cwt. to a ton, and we have bushels of different dimensions and so on. All this is absolutely unnecessary. It is an extra work for everybody in the business world. Now, I think the only argument that I have over heard against the introduction of the metric system was, that certain people, mostly old people, probably old market women, agricultural laborers who come with their money to buy things on Saturday nights and so on, that they would take a long time to understand the metric system. Well, I venture to think that anybody who cannot understand the metric system of weights and measures, after, say, a month, does not understand the present system at all. I know this; in my office in London, I sometimes promote youngsters to go to my office in Paris, and I know that if one of those youngsters cannot wrestle with the difficulty of weights and measures according to the metric system so as to be able to calculate correctly, he does not stay in my office in Paris—nor does he come back to London. I think the difficulties, and the manner in which we are handicapped in our calculations is extraordinary, and ought to have been done away with long ago, and I think also we should not allow any national prejudice to stand in the way of adopting something newer. No doubt we ought to have been the first nation to adopt the metric system. We were not. The continental nations have adopted it, but we should not let that stand in the way—we should not let our national pride stand in the way in adopting something like a decimal system which is carried out all over the continent. There is no doubt in all scientific calculations we have already adopted it. If you speak of an ounce, or a pound, in a scientific calculation, you are thought to be very much behind the age. Everything goes on the decimal system. I am a member of the Decimal Association of England, which is carried on in connection with the London Chamber of Commerce and it comprises almost all the principal bankers and merchants and men of business, etc., and they see the numerous advantages of that system and the disadvantages of the present one.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. J. X. Perrault, of the Chambre de Commerce of Montreal.

Mr. J. X. PERRAULT (Chambre de Commerce, Montreal): Mr. President and Gentlemen: At the second Congress of the Chambers of Congress of the Empire, which was held in London in 1892, I had the honor, as representing our Chamber of Commerce of presenting a resolution asking for the adoption of the metric system. This resolution was unanimously adopted by the Conference, but unluckily, so far, the British Government has not moved. It is evident that for people who are not familiar with the English weights and measures, that it is a most difficult thing to get acquainted with the business transactions that you are about to carry on with gentlemen in England. There are not only pounds and ounces, and so on, but there are stones of 14 pounds, there is an 18 pound stone, and a 24 pound stone, and perhaps a 30 pound stone for all I know, and it is very difficult for a foreigner to know which stone he is calculating on when he is regarding the price at which the transaction is to be made, whilst, with the metric system it is so very simple—it is the simplest and one of the finest results of the French revolution. Every country in the world has adopted that system with the exception of Great Britain and the United States.

A VOICE: And Russia.

Mr. PERRAULT: And perhaps Russia. Well, those two great commercial nations are still in the stone age

of measurements (laughter). I must say that we regret very much in Canada that the adoption of this system has not taken place. Of course Canada alone cannot move, but I know for a certainty that the Canadian Government is ready to move right off the moment Great Britain will move, and the moment the United States will move, and we have a law, which has been passed by our Government, which makes it legal to deal with weights and measures of the metric system, but it is not compulsory, and the compulsion is what is required, and we do hope that Great Britain, that great commercial nation of which we are so proud, will at last move on this great question, and that in ten years hence we will not hear again that the question is to be postponed for ten or twelve years more.

It will be a great improvement in the way we do business, and we all expect that Great Britain will move. We are ready, and we are only waiting for her to start. (Applause).

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Mr. Drummond of Montreal will speak.

HON. SENATOR GEORGE A. DRUMMOND (Montreal Board of Trade): Mr. President and Gentlemen: Before the Congress commits itself to an exact and formal expression of opinion on this question, I think we ought to take into consideration that there are quite divergent views about it. A great many people of practical experience, do not approve of the adoption of the metric system. Remember that the intricate system of weights and measures which prevails in England (and which was referred to by one of the previous speakers), is not necessarily bound up with the metric system. You might drop the hundredweight and the bushels, and all sorts of vagaries of measures, without adopting the metric system. Say for example you adopt the cental in regard to grain, and you would achieve the benefits of the decimal currency without the adoption of the metric system. Now, the metric system possesses no doubt some advantages, but the only advantage which I have heard mentioned this afternoon which impresses me as of a substantial character is the one mentioned by a preceding speaker, when he said that foreign nations find a difficulty in understanding the difference between our yards and their metres, and that they would not take the trouble of enquiring into it. Now you all know perfectly well that there is a habit in the human mind—a desire always in speaking of fractions to cut things in two, and you know perfectly well that in the United States the decimal system has had its sway for a century in currency matters, and they have been discussing for over thirty years the adoption of the metric system. My information goes that they propose in five years, or in 1907, to adopt the metric system, making it compulsory. Now, what is the fact? Do they carry the decimal system even in their currency throughout every operation of every day life? I say they do not. If you go into the New York market to-morrow, and want to buy some goods, you will find that they calculate, not in decimal fractions, but vulgar fractions. For example, suppose I go into the New York market and I want a commodity. I have a quotation given to me of one cent, two cents, or three cents, or whatever it may be per pound, with an additional fraction. Well they do not give me .5 or .10 or .15, or that fraction but they calculate on this principle. I can buy these goods either at so much and one-eighth or so much and one-half or so much and a sixteenth, or so much and one-thirty second and so much and a sixty-fourth, —halving continually, and the same predilection runs through the general mind and it is shown in the fact that in arbitrations of every kind the usual plan is to put the two extremes together and divide them into two and allocate them by nine. Now, gentlemen, don't forget that the introduction of the metric system is



going to result in a revolution that will require you and me and everybody here to go to school again.

VOICES : No, no.

HON. SENATOR DRUMMOND (continuing) : If I were to say about the mover of this resolution that he was a man of about one metre and seven centimetres high, what idea would it convey to you? (Laughter.) I might add that he weighed about 70 kilos, and what idea would that convey to you? Before you could understand or form any idea as to what that really meant, you would have to translate it into your own old measure and weight that you have been accustomed to use. Why, gentlemen, even when you go to England—and I put it to every man here,—when a man asks you 12 shillings for an article in a shop, what is the first thing you do? You translate it into dollars and cents and then make up your mind whether it is cheap or whether it is dear. I am using that argument simply to prove that every one of us would have to go to school again to learn this new system. Now, if the metric system is ever to be adopted and made compulsory, my idea would be, after a full deliberation, to introduce it into the schools, and in ten or fifteen years we would have a race grown up that would be more familiar with the metric system than they are with feet and inches.

Now, I have alongside of me a gentleman who thinks the inch is good enough for here. The inch is in my opinion a better unit to go upon than the millimeter. Now, remember what would happen. Nearly all the machinery in our shops would have to be changed. They are all based upon the foot and inch, and the inch is the unit. All the scales used by surveyors, architects and every other class of men employing measures of length would have to be changed. The working man would have to supply himself with a new metric rule, and so through the whole gamut from beginning to end. In my opinion, gentlemen, this Congress should hesitate before it agrees to any resolution which would force the adoption or even commit the Congress to the adoption of a recommendation that it should be made compulsory within a limited time. In my opinion it would be a great mistake. Now, gentlemen, not only would everything in private practice have to be translated, but there is not an argument for the adoption of a metric system which does not equally apply to language. There is as much of an obstacle to the introduction of our goods into a foreign country by not knowing the language of that country, as there is by not knowing their weights and measures. I therefore desire earnestly to have this Congress—while it may express an opinion about the advisability or the non-advisability of putting this in practice, I would like it to commit itself simply to a proposition that the subject is very well worth considering, and with that view I will propose as an amendment :—

"That it is advisable to have the question of the adoption of the metric system duly considered, and this Congress recommends the appointment of a Royal Commission with that end in view."

It would involve matters of deep importance to a great number of people. Our tariff would have to be entirely changed, dealing in dollars and inches and in pounds, and it is impossible to trace through all the ramifications of commerce anything that would dislocate the present condition of things more thoroughly than the adoption of this system. I therefore move the amendment.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : Does anybody second Senator J. Macfarlane's amendment?

Mr. T. Macfarlane (of the Ottawa Chamber) : I second the motion.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : Well sir, have you anything to say in seconding this motion.

Mr. MACFARLANE : I presume I can second the motion without the necessity of making a speech.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : You have heard Senator Drummond's amendment to the effect that the Government be asked for a royal commission to consider the whole matter. Is there anybody who wishes to speak to that amendment?"

VOICES : Vote, vote.

Mr. F. W. Cook (of Dudley) : Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that this does afford an opportunity to discuss this question from another point of view. I oppose the amendment and the reason why I oppose the amendment, is that this matter has been up for thorough discussion by the Chambers of Commerce for years upon years. (Hear, hear.) It is a matter that appears on the agenda paper every meeting we have. It appears, from my point of view, and I think from the point of view of a great many members of this Congress that this is a question that we don't want any more biased opinions about and our endeavor should be to compel the Government as far as we can, or rather to impress upon the Government not to treat this matter in the like manner in which they have treated it in the past. I am taking this question up in connection with our schools and have for years upon years talked the metric system in our board school.—I think for some six years, but yet are no nearer having the metric system than formerly. With regard to Senator Drummond's argument that we shall have to go to school again, that we shall have a fresh education with regard to measures and with regard to weights, I would point out the fact that if any gentlemen go to France, Switzerland or Germany, for a holiday they are obliged to become acquainted not only with the measures and weights of those countries, but also with the coinage, and when you are obliged to do it, how easy it is to fall into their methods. (Hear, hear.) The same argument can be used at any future time—the arguments are just the same as have been used against it to-day, and the sooner we make up our minds to make the change the better. (Hear, hear.)

We complain of loss of trade and other nations taking away our business. Gentlemen, we must wake up and see if we cannot go at it the same as other nations are doing. If we don't adopt their methods, how can we complain of their competing with us and beating us in the markets of the world. We must use their own methods and conduct our business on the same up-to-date lines that they use, and therefore it seems to me that we should not only pass this resolution, but we should force it upon the Government that they should take action in the matter.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : Gentlemen: You have the amendment—I will read you now the amendment duly seconded by Mr. Macfarlane, of Ottawa.

Mr. MACFARLANE : I would like to say a few words in support of the amendment.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : I am afraid I cannot permit it. You seconded the amendment and asked me if you could second it without speaking and I said you could. After that I must say I do not think you have a right to speak. I cannot permit one gentleman to rise more than once to speak to the same motion. The amendment moved by Senator Drummond and seconded by Mr. Macfarlane, of Ottawa, is as follows :—

"To omit all words after 'namely' in the resolution No. 10 on the paper, and to substitute after that 'it is advisable to have the question of the adoption of the metric system duly considered, and the Congress recommends the appointment of a royal commission for that purpose.'"

Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of the amendment will signify in the usual manner.

Amendment declared lost by a large majority.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I will now return to the original resolution, and I think Mr. Haynes, of Montreal, wishes to speak.

**MR. JOSEPH HAYNES** (Chambre de Commerce de Montreal): I rise as a representative of La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal, and second the resolution of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce in favor of the metric system. I will be as brief as possible. This proposition of universally adopting the metric system is as it were a standing proposition. I have heard here a previous speaker making a comparison between the standard yard and the meter, and concluding that the standard yard is better than the meter. In reply to the question of what system was the best if there was only one system to be adopted, he answered, "That question the French philosophers and statesmen took under their very effective consideration more than one hundred years ago, and with very great wisdom chose a system almost ideal. There is just one point in which that system is less than ideal." He went on to say as follows: "I would say that if we were to make the choice over again I don't think we could do better practically than take the French metrical system as it is, and it is admirably convenient just as it is. No change has been suggested that could better it." I think this opinion of a man whose science is admitted in every civilized country in the world is sufficient to convince us of the superiority of the metric system over the yard.

According to the figures and statistics of the British decimal association, there are already four hundred and thirty-four millions of people who are using the system, and are quite satisfied with it. There are only at present the English speaking nations, including India and Russia, that have not legalized the use of the metric system, and I understand that the United States are going to make it compulsory in 1907. Now there certainly are objections to the adoption of a new system of weights and measures. These objections are of different classes. In respect to what I would call the sentimental class, I will quote again Lord Kelvin's opinion in his evidence before the House of Representatives in Washington last April. ("Question, question.")

Well, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, as I understand the Congress is a little nervous and anxious for the vote, I will bring my remarks to a close, and simply say I am wholly in favor of the adoption of the system, except in the compulsory clause. I do not believe that a compulsory law can be passed for the whole system. I think it should be according to scale. For instance, there is no necessity of a compulsory law for the application of this system to electrical matters nor scientific matters, because they have already the metrical standard. But I think there is something in the objection in the line of automatic machinery.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Are you ready for the question? (Hear, hear.) Those in favor of the passing of this resolution, and I wish you to understand, gentlemen, that that deals with all the resolutions under the metric system, except No. 46, which deals with currency alone, and therefore I kept that separate, but Nos. 40 to 47 exclusive of No. 46, are being dealt with. Those in favor of the resolution will signify in the usual way.

Resolution carried by a large majority.

**A DELEGATE:** On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that we are coming to a time when moments are precious, and when it is desirable that we should no longer read speeches.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** There is a good deal in what you say, but when we come to quotations it is necessary that they be accurately quoted. I think, gentlemen, we could really help matters very much if the gentlemen will not rise to speak unless they have—well, I was going to say, unless they have something to

say. If any matter has been fairly and honestly alluded to by a previous speaker, is it worth the while of another speaker to reiterate? I wanted very much to speak on that subject this morning, but other men had said what I wanted to say, and it was only in fairness to the meeting that I withheld my remarks. Now I am going to ask Mr. Perrault, of Montreal, to move No. 46, as I understand he desires to move that resolution.

#### DECIMAL SYSTEM OF CURRENCY.

**MR. F. X. PERRAULT** (Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal), moved:—

It is resolved "That this Congress favors the adoption throughout the Empire of the 'Decimal System of Currency' which already answers all commercial purposes."

**MR. PERRAULT:** Mr. Chairman: I think it would be a great improvement in our relations with the Mother Country if, instead of having pounds, shillings and pence, that we used to learn at school when boys, about forty or fifty years ago, we had the decimal system of the United States extended to the Mother Country. In view of the great amount of trade if we could harmonize between Canada and Australia and Great Britain, dollars and cents, which is the mighty dollar in this world, it would settle the whole question of the abolition of pounds, shillings, pence and farthings. It is difficult for those of us who have been brought up to the dollar to translate it into pounds sterling, and vice versa. We generally translate the pound into five dollars, but there is a few cents over the pound in that figure. If we were to adopt the decimal system we would be in a position to deal with the whole world in such a way as to simplify matters. Our Chamber therefore proposes this resolution that the decimal system be adopted. We do not specify whether it shall be dollars and cents or not, but we ask for the adoption throughout the Empire of the "decimal system of currency," which already answers all commercial purposes.

**MR. C. H. CATELLI** (Chambre de Commerce de Montreal), seconded the resolution.

**HONOURABLE WILLIAM ROSS, M.P.** (Halifax Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman: You made the remark just now that no persons should speak unless he had something to say. I think that is a reflection on my countrymen, because no Scotchmen will get up to speak unless he has something to say. (Laughter.) Now the public men in Great Britain, in England, Ireland and Scotland move, but move slowly. Still they move and are making progress. I was surprised to hear a gentleman stating here that if you adopted the metric system you would have to go to school again. If you had to go to school at all it would be to unlearn something you had learned already. I almost shudder at the thought of the early days when I had to make all my calculations in pounds, shillings, pence and farthings. I think it was a great measure of relief to Canada as well as to the neighboring colony of Newfoundland when they adopted the present system of dollars and cents and abolished the old barbarous system. I was going to say, of pounds, shillings, pence and farthings. I am speaking in the presence of the intelligent commercial people of Canada and I make this assertion, that there is scarcely a calculation they have to make they cannot make with the simple rules of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Almost all their transactions can be carried on with these simple rules. Now, fancy a merchant in England or Scotland or Ireland—I do not like the word England as including Scotland and Ireland too; these nationalities are separate; Britain or the Empire I can understand, but when you say England and apply it to the whole Empire I will not accept that. (Applause.) I was going to say: fancy any merchant in the British Empire getting his clerk to make an invoice. He has to make

his calculations in pounds, shillings, pence and farthings. Then the merchant in Montreal must send his clerk to the custom house and reduce these to pounds, shillings and pence again. The amount of labor you impose on your children when you make them learn that old system is enormous. It would be a very sensible thing to adopt dollars and cents. You reverse the memory of Cobden and Bright, useful men in their day, and Gladstone, who also made mistakes though he was a great man, but the man that will get up in the British House of Parliament and with his influence secure the adoption of our system of dollars and cents will be revered by future generations as much as any of these great men. I need not say more on this subject, but I ask you to try and not put the painful task on your children of teaching them pounds, shillings and pence, vulgar fractions and the decimals as well. Why, what have you to do if you want to make a calculation? Say you want to divide £1.16.8 into £120.16.8, what have you to do? You have to multiply it to the farthings before you can divide it, and after you find the result you have to reduce that to pounds, shillings and pence afterwards. (Laughter). I hope my friends on the other side—because I have a warm feeling towards the gentlemen who came here to instruct us in many things from the other side of the ocean—will see their way to adopt dollars and cents as a simple system of calculation which is of great value in itself. I was going to say a word about Newfoundland, with which I am well acquainted. In Newfoundland they have branches of houses in England, in Liverpool and London; in Glasgow and Leith in Scotland, and houses in Ireland. These people with all their ideas coming from home have adopted the dollars and cents system, showing they have learned lessons after coming here that were of more advantage to them than anything they had been taught at home.

MR. J. L. M'OLLOCK (Paris British Chamber of Commerce): I will endeavour to say in one word what I have to say on this question. The difficulty with a great many British subjects in this matter is a question of coinage. I can give you a system which is very simple and which would obviate all the difficulties. We make the dollar the starting point or the florin or whatever you like to call it. We divide that into shillings of exactly the same value as now. We divide the shilling into pence and the penny we divide into five farthings. The only thing that would be changed in value is the farthing and then this whole bugbear of the currency would be disposed of. All you want is a declaration that the farthing instead of being as it is now shall be one-fifth instead of one-fourth.

MR. W. CHESTERMAN (Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): I will not occupy your time long upon this subject because it is something which you have heard discussed from childhood. There are one or two practical difficulties which I wish to point out. Some years ago I was among the representatives of the Decimal Association who waited upon Sir William Vernon Harcourt who was then I think President of the Board of Trade. What he said to us in substance was this: "I admit the advantages of the system which you are endeavouring to introduce, but it can only be introduced into England at the point of the bayonet, there would be revolution if you attempted to do away with the working man's penny." That was his statement. He said it would take a generation of Board School education before the working man would consent to use dollars and cents. I looked upon that view as a most flagrant mistake and I was astonished afterward when the Decimal Association decided to drop the question of currency and take up the much more difficult and thorny subject of weights and measures. Now, gentlemen, I have had a long experience, I have known hundreds and

thousands of men who have come to the United States where a decimal currency is in vogue. I have known many of them who came back for various reasons, because they did not like the climate or they didn't like work or the system of Government did not suit them or because they could not get hold of the dollar, but I never heard of one man who did not understand the dollar and how to spend it. (Laughter). That, I think, gentlemen, is really a complete answer. There may be, probably there are some of us here, who have never been in a land of decimal currency before. Have you had any difficulty? Not at all. You can learn it in fifteen minutes. The Government should put down its foot and the whole country would accept. There are difficulties with regard to weights and measures, but it is a mere paper difficulty as to decimal coinage. (Applause).

The Acting Chairman then put the resolution, which was carried with two dissenting votes.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: The Chairman of the Congress is requested to publicly announce the fact that delegates taking tours must allow themselves sufficient time at the station before the departure of trains. Every train will leave exactly at the moment scheduled. You see we leave on time in this country.

#### A PROPOSAL AS TO PROCEDURE.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: I have before me a suggestion, I can hardly call it a resolution, though it might be put in that form if it were unanimously agreed to. It comes from Lieut-Colonel Ponton, and here it is:

"That the movers and seconders of resolutions which it may be found impossible to fully dispose of, owing to the pressure of time, be permitted to hand in brief epitomes of their arguments in support of the resolution, so that one of the mutual advantages that this Congress desires to attain, namely, the reciprocal interchange of opinion on important objects may be obtained by the embodiment of their several views in the official report of the proceedings."

I would suggest that when a resolution is offered, if there is any pronounced opposition it could be discussed, but if not, I might put it at once. I think that this would expediate matters very much. There are a great many resolutions on the paper, but three-fourths of them are just pious opinions, which we shall all endorse, and there are several others with which none of us will disagree.

A DELEGATE: Where the opinion of the meeting is unanimous the resolution might be passed at once, and then we could go on with the next one.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: That is just what I am suggesting and what Colonel Ponton is suggesting, except that he proposes that delegates may print brief summaries of their arguments in the official report.

A DELEGATE: Let the mover and seconder give their reason and then let the resolution be put.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: Well, gentlemen, there is the clock and we have a great many resolutions still to deal with, but I suppose we can meet again to-morrow morning and go on. It is not for me to say that anything on the agenda paper is not in order or shall not be discussed. That is a matter entirely for the meeting to decide.

#### COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' LICENSES.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: Resolution 48, who is the mover?

MR. WALTER GREENWAY (Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce): I have the honor, on behalf of the Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce, to move the resolution which you find upon the programme, and in sympathy with a remark by the Chairman, about cut-

ting short the debate, so as to get through the programme, and as I think it will meet with the support of every delegate from Great Britain and Canada, I will content myself with merely proposing the resolution without further remarks. The resolution reads:—

"That as Great Britain imposes no license on commercial travellers representing colonial houses, this Congress is of opinion that commercial travellers representing British houses should be free from impost of license when travelling in the colonies."

Mr. S. B. BOULTON (the Timber Trade Federation of the United Kingdom): On behalf of the London Chamber, I second the motion.

Mr. E. LALLENFELD (Pretoria Chamber of Commerce): I should like to call attention to the fact that in considering this motion, you are wasting your time, for whether you pass it or not, it will make no difference. We can never admit a principle of class legislation. If we have a commercial travellers' license, it will apply to all parts, and we cannot accept anything which will be to the disadvantage of colonial and other nations.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I will ask, are you prepared to express an opinion?

#### RESOURCES OF THE EMPIRE.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I pass to resolution 49, "Resources of the Empire," moved by The Canadian Manufacturers' Association. Anybody move? Anybody move 49. I pass that. Resolution 50, Winnipeg Board of Trade. Who moves it?

Mr. JAMES PENDER, St. John, N. (Canadian Manufacturers' Association): I move resolution 49.

Mr. R. H. DILLON (St. Mary's Board of Trade): Was not this carried by the tariff resolution this morning, I rise to a point of order.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I cannot get the resolution. I am trying to get it from the representative. I have an agenda paper placed in my hands, but it is not for me to reject the resolutions and say I won't admit them. The gentlemen who are to move the resolutions, I have asked them to move up to the platform and be ready. However, a gentleman has come forward to move this, and I shall be glad to allow him to proceed.

Mr. JAMES PENDER read the resolution which was as follows:—

"That an Imperial Commission consisting of representatives from Great Britain and self-governing colonies be appointed to visit all parts of the Empire and prepare a report pointing out the resources of the various portions of the Empire and how they may best serve the interests of the whole."

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to speak on it, sir?

Mr. PENDER: No, sir.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Does anybody second the resolution.

Mr. JOHN HENDRY (Vancouver): I second the resolution.

Mr. CHARLES LANCASTER (Liverpool Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): I wish to speak to the resolution. It seems to be a contentious resolution. The number of Imperial Commissions we recommend will weaken their effect if we suggest increasing the number. I would therefore respectfully urge on the mover and seconder of this resolution it should be adjourned for future consideration, because I am satisfied if we thoroughly discuss it, it would be lost by a large majority. I would urge that the mover and seconder agree to postpone its consideration for the future, or that it be discussed throughout.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: What does the mover say?

Mr. C. A. BIRSE (Canadian Manufacturers' Association): We don't wish to urge it upon the Congress if it is going to take up time, but if it is likely to meet the entire approval of the Congress, we would like to have it passed; if not, we withdraw it.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: With the permission of the meeting the mover and seconder desire to withdraw it.

The resolution was withdrawn.

#### FOOD SUPPLY FOR BRITISH EMPIRE FROM COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

Mr. GEORGE R. CROWE (President Winnipeg Board of Trade) moved:—

"That there are in the British colonies natural resources, if properly developed, sufficient to supply the food supply for the British Empire."

Mr. LAYLE (The Timber Trade Federation, London): Mr. Chairman: I think that everyone in the meeting will admit this resolution without a word. (Cries of agreed).

Mr. GEORGE R. CROWE: I have not anything to say if the meeting is agreed Mr. Chairman. I will simply move the resolution on behalf of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, and submit it to you. Sufficient has been said during the meeting to establish the correctness of the resolution which we have on the paper.

Mr. C. A. YOUNG (Winnipeg): Mr. Chairman, I will suggest that as Mr. Crowe has considerable statistical information as to the resources of the Western part of Canada, it would be interesting and a great benefit to the members present, and I would therefore suggest that Mr. Crowe be allowed to present that information for the benefit of those present. (Hear, hear).

Mr. Crowe (Winnipeg): I will not take up any more of your time than I can possibly help. The resolution I am sure is not a contentious one, but is one that will meet with the hearty approval of every gentleman in the room. Our object in introducing it is simply to give some information in reference to the resources of the northwest portion of Canada which we represent. I come from the city of Winnipeg—half way across the continent—a city which occupies the third position in so far as commercial interests in Canada are concerned. In discussing the resolution I shall confine myself entirely to one article of food—our resolution deals simply with the food supply—I am sure this is a very important question, but as I said before, I will be brief. I would like to call your attention to a few figures, and I make no apology for introducing figures because they are really necessary in support of an argument which I shall put forward.

The quantity of wheat and flour that is required to be imported into the United Kingdom, according to the best figures that I have been able to obtain is: from one hundred and eighty to two hundred million of bushels of wheat, imported either as wheat or flour—that is to feed the present population of Great Britain.

According to the trade statistics that I have at my disposal, and from which I produce the figures for my argument, the importation for five years ending 1900, averaged about one hundred and seventy-nine millions of bushels, that is imported either as wheat or flour. One hundred and fifty-four millions of bushels of this or about 86%, came from foreign countries, and twenty-five million, or about 14% from British possessions. Canada supplied about fourteen millions or about eight per cent. of the total importation. I just wish to point out here that in the years 1901 and 1902, Canada would supply a much larger quantity, but I have not the figures at my disposal.



Now, has Canada sufficient wheat lands to produce the 86% that was imported from foreign countries? I have no hesitation in saying that Canada is able to produce that quantity. There are in the four provinces of the Northwest: Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, roughly speaking, about two hundred and fifty million acres of land. It is very difficult to say what proportion of that land is suitable for the production of wheat, but I think I would be quite safe in saying that at least 50% of that area is available for agricultural purposes, but for the purpose of my argument I propose to cut that in two—say there is 25% of that two hundred and fifty million acres available—that would be sixty-two and one half million.

Now, in the year 1901 this country produced sixty-three millions of bushels of wheat on two million five hundred and sixteen thousand acres. In 1902 it produced sixty-four million on two million six hundred and sixty-five thousand acres, and in 1903 there are three million two hundred thousand acres under wheat crop, and although the yield is smaller than it was the two previous years, it is still safe to say that the crop will be between fifty-five and sixty million bushels. Of the sixty-four millions that were produced last year, there were shipped to the provinces east of Manitoba not less than forty-five million bushels. Now, it is fair to estimate that of the total quantity of wheat grown, two-thirds is available for export. Then it is a simple proposition, gentlemen, to figure that if three million acres can produce sixty million of bushels of wheat, it would require fifteen million to produce three hundred million bushels of wheat. Now, two-thirds of three hundred million is two hundred million which is the total amount required by the United Kingdom, and I believe that the United Kingdom is the only importer of wheat, that is, the United Kingdom as being a part of the British Empire is the only country that really requires to import wheat. That is, generally speaking, so that it requires fifteen millions of acres of land to produce what is necessary to supply the British Empire, and we have sixty-two and one-half millions acres available at the least. I think it is not necessary for me to proceed further to state that there are wheat lands sufficient in the Northwest to supply the entire necessity of the British Empire. (Applause.)

Mr. C. A. Youso (Winnipeg): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I do not propose to take up a few moments of your time; but I wish to supplement some remarks to those of the mover of this resolution. He has shown you very clearly what the possibilities are of Western Canada to produce the food supply and bread stuffs required by Great Britain. Now, I just want to point out in supplementing the position he takes—that the Premier of Manitoba in making some remarks in Toronto a few days ago, made this statement: that forty-two thousand farmers in the province of Manitoba last year produced one hundred million bushels of grain—wheat and other grain. Now, sir, they produced that one hundred million bushels on three million acres of land and when you take into account the fact that in the province of Manitoba we have over thirty million acres of good wheat land, you can understand what the province of Manitoba can do in the way of supplying the wants of Great Britain.

A remark was made yesterday by one of the speakers, speaking on the important question then before us, that if Canada could produce more wheat, Great Britain would be more independent in altering her fiscal policy. Now sir, we have only to look at the map and see what a small portion of the Great Northwest, the province of Manitoba occupies. With the increased population that is coming in and with the population that is there to-day, we can produce more wheat than

is imported to-day into Great Britain from the United States and Canada combined. We have had an emigration of 125,000 people into that country last year, who have not participated in the production of this year's crop. We had nearly 100,000 the year before who have not yet had an opportunity of participating in the production of wheat, and, sir, in the emigration I have just referred to I want it distinctly understood that the great portion of the emigrants are not going into the towns and cities, but they are going into the rural districts for the express purpose of producing wheat. There have been 31,000 homestead entries this year, and sir, I want to point out another feature: our political and commercial institutions are endeavouring by every means in their power to transport that wheat to Great Britain through Canadian channels. We are endeavouring and will succeed, I am sure, in sending the bulk of that crop through Canadian ports, thereby building up the shipping industry, building up our eastern seaports that are so necessary for the development of the eastern portion of Canada. (Applause.)

Now, sir, I am satisfied that when the discussion which took place here yesterday and to-day was going on, that the Canadian part of that discussion was confined to a great extent to the manufacturing industries and the manufacturing part of the Dominion. I want to say, sir, that the producer—the farmer of Canada was not as well represented as the manufacturer, and I want to say that any preference that may be given to the wheat of the colonies or the natural products of the colonies, so far as the producer is concerned, he would be willing to take down a portion of that barrier which now exists between Great Britain and the colonies. I think I am voicing the sentiments of a large portion of the producers of Canada when I make that statement. (Applause.)

Sir, if we want to develop the shipping industries, if we want to get the lines of steamships sailing from our ports to the Old Country, we must encourage the importation of the manufactured products of Great Britain and give them markets both ways. I would be pleased to see subsidies granted to those lines, but we have to have freight both ways. I say we must encourage the importation of British manufactures if we want to develop the wheat growing industries of this country.

I don't want to take up but a little more of your time. I want to say that we are not altogether confined to wheat. In the vast prairies of the West we have the opportunity of producing beef, we have the opportunity of producing the cattle that will supply all the needs of Great Britain in that respect. Last year alone there were imported into the North-West Territories of Canada 50,000 head of stockers from Mexico, the United States and Eastern Canada, and that is over and above the natural increase of the stock they were already carrying. I want to say that the dairy interests in the Northwest of Canada are going ahead by leaps and bounds, and sir, we want to feel that when you go into that country, as pointed out by one of the speakers this morning, that you will realize the vast and immense heritage that every British subject has in that great territory of the West. (Applause.)

Mr. M. de P. Wenn (Karachi, India): I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, in connection with the resolution now before the meeting, I would like to suggest to the proposer and seconder of the resolution that in place of the word, "food," the word "wheat" be substituted.

VOICES: No, no.

Mr. CROWE: We don't accept that.

Mr. WEBB: I should like to remind our Canadian friends that the little port I represent in India, last

year shipped close upon 500,000 tons of wheat, and we can no doubt double that quantity from the fields of the Punjab in the course of a year or two, but I did not suppose the proposer of this resolution proposed to supply the whole British Empire.

Mr. CROWE: The resolution is very distinct. It says, "That there are in the British colonies natural resources if properly developed sufficient to provide the food supply of the Empire."

Mr. WHEE: Under the circumstances then I do not wish to propose any amendment, but might I suggest that the word, "dependencies" be added to "British Colonies," so that the resolution will read, "British colonies and dependencies." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CROWE: Certainly, I have no objection to that addition being made.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Does the meeting accept the addition of the word "dependencies?"

Voices: Yes, yea.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. PILLMAN, Vice-President of the Flour Trade Association, London, England.

Mr. J. C. PILLMAN (of the London Corn Exchange): Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen: I do not wish to add very much to the remarks which have already been made because after all if Manitoba has this wonderful prospect in wheat, it is very important for her to have a market for her produce, but I may say, coming from the London market, that there is no wheat that comes to the London market that is of such fine quality as that which comes from Manitoba. (Hear, hear.) Taking the average price of other imported wheats that are sold on the London market I make bold to say that Manitoba wheat averages at least two shillings a quarter more than that of the other imported wheats. Surely, gentlemen, that opens up a very large prospect of a market for the development of the Northwest. Manitoba wheat is a wheat which is particularly required in England. It is a wheat which blends well with English wheat, and I am quite sure the sentiment in this room is to foster everything that blends between England and the Empire. (Applause and laughter.)

I believe that the importation of these hard wheats and hard wheat flours have had much to do with keeping up the very moderate acreage which is now utilized for the growth of English wheat. We hail with satisfaction a large crop in the Northwest just as much as we do a large crop in the United Kingdom, because the blending of these two wheats makes the finest flour for the London and British trade.

It is, sir, a question of the survival of the fittest, and the Manitoban wheat is a wheat which we do not get a sufficient quantity of. We have been told that out of a crop of sixty-five million bushels, forty-five million bushels were exported last year, and yet that is not sufficient for the demand that there is in the United Kingdom for this description of wheat. So that when we have heard to-day of the depressed industries and the severe competition in the Old Country it must be a source of satisfaction for us to know the agricultural prospects of the Northwest, and that Canada is to be the strong arm of the British Empire. We do not want that arm to be used to strike at the heart of the British Empire, which is the United Kingdom, but we believe that the strong arm of Canada is going to feed the Mother Country. I hope you will excuse me for taking up your time to say these few words. (Applause.)

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of resolution No. 50, proposed by the Winnipeg Board of Trade will please signify their assent in the usual manner.

Carried unanimously.

## CONTRACTS FOR IMPERIAL PUBLIC WORKS.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Colonel McLean, of Montreal, to propose Resolution No. 51, which will be seconded by Mr. Birge, of Toronto.

LIEUT.-COLONEL J. B. McLEAN (Montreal): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: As the resolution is submitted by the Manufacturers' Association, it reads:

"That in the opinion of this Congress, in all contracts for Imperial public works, the preference should be given, as far as possible, to British subjects."

Our good friend, Lord Strathcona, has very kindly suggested a slight amendment which has met with the approval of the Manufacturers' Association, and which I hope will meet with the approval of this Congress. After the words "Public Works" His Lordship has suggested the addition of the three words "it is desirable," making the resolution read thus:

"That in the opinion of this Congress, in all contracts for Imperial public works, it is desirable that the preference should be given, as far as possible, to British subjects."

I do not think it is necessary for me to occupy your time with any remarks. The resolution speaks for itself.

Mr. CYRUS BIRGE (Toronto): On behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, I beg to second the resolution. As the mover has just stated, it is not necessary to take up any of your time by any remarks, and we will leave the resolution to speak for itself.

Mr. BOULTON (London Chamber): I merely rise to support this resolution on behalf of the London Chamber.

Mr. E. PARKES, M.P. (Birmingham Chamber): Since I have been in Montreal I have received a letter from a member of the commercial committee of the House of Commons upon this very subject, in which he complains that there is not sufficient time given to the English firms to tender for Canadian contracts. Of course the close proximity of the United States, I suppose, renders it easier to get a contract returned in time—in a shorter space of time, but he says one of the complaints of the English contractor is that he has not sufficient time to properly tender for Canadian contracts. Now, what I would suggest is to those who have the placing of contracts in Canada, or who have any influence with those who give contracts, is that they should allow English manufacturers sufficient time to tender for these contracts. (Hear, hear.) If they do that, I think it would make a considerable difference, and would enable the English manufacturer to do something in this line.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question? Those in favor of the resolution will please signify in the usual manner.

Resolution carried unanimously.

## NEWFOUNDLAND AS A PART OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I call upon Colonel Ponton, of Belleville, to move resolution No. 53 with respect to Newfoundland.

LIEUT.-COLONEL PONTON (Belleville, Ont.), moved:

It is resolved "That to fully round out and complete Canadian Confederation and to strengthen Imperial unity, it is, in the opinion of this Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, essential that Newfoundland should be included as a constituent part of the Dominion of Canada. The present is an opportune time to enter upon negotiations leading to this result in view of the pending tariff treaty between Newfoundland and the United States, and the friendly relations now existing between France and Great Britain, and the probable disposition on the part of France to settle for all time matters so long in dispute respecting the French shore. It is in the opinion of this Congress a matter of Imperial importance that one intact Atlantic seaboard should be thus permanently secured."

**COLONEL PONTON** said: General Lauria, Gentlemen: I do not know that many of us know very much about the oldest colony of Great Britain. The fact is that it is a colony of 43,734 square miles, not counting the Labrador coast of 7,000 square miles, and the Labrador coast is one of the principal reasons I have for moving this resolution. If you will look at that map over there, you will see how little Atlantic seaboard Canada has. This great Canada, which boasts that she extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific is cut off from the Pacific for a long way down by the white line claimed by the United States as a continuation of Alaska. This cuts out the western seaboard on the Pacific by about one half. Then on the east, Canada is not Canada, but it is Newfoundland and Labrador. This whole 7,000 square miles are under the jurisdiction of Newfoundland. Now is the time—the time is ripe now for us to pass this resolution. I believe it was in 1894 a conference was held between Canada and Newfoundland, but the conference dropped. Why? Simply because Canada refused to assume the total debt of Newfoundland, amounting to only one million pounds, or about five million dollars. How many million dollars has she since spent that might have been spent in getting Newfoundland into the great Imperial Confederation of Canada? The time is ripe, because there is at present on the table a treaty of unrestricted reciprocity between this oldest colony and the United States. Canada is not consulted; Great Britain is consulted, but scarcely. And what will be the result, if, next year at the meeting of the Congress of the United States, that unrestricted reciprocity bill passes? It will mean that every industry in Newfoundland will go into the hands of the United States proprietors. It will mean that all Newfoundland interests will centre in the United States, instead of in Canada—Canada who now has a trade with Newfoundland amounting to nearly \$3,500,000—we do not realize the extent of it, \$2,081,000 of exports, \$1,600,000 of imports from Newfoundland alone. Every one says, "Fish." No, minerals and timber and grain as well. Now is it not important that this trade should be secured for all time? I must say that at present Newfoundland is under what we might call a divided allegiance. I put this forward as a proposition, that every Britisher will respond to, that on British soil there is no room for two prerogative flags. Is it not a fact that along with the British flag there is a French flag, that at different seasons of the year is hoisted as the prerogative flag, not hoisted along with the Union Jack, but hoisted as the flag of authority—the French flag? Now, there is at the present time, thanks to the good intervention of King Edward, the peacemaker, an *entente cordiale* between France and England. May it always last. It always has been in operation since Napoleon's body was allowed to be taken home by England. There is just one element of friction remaining, and it is the fisheries of Newfoundland, and it takes a fleet of France and a fleet of England to keep trouble from bursting out every year.

At the present time there are in Newfoundland waters, three English vessels, and a great many French vessels. I say this on the authority of a Montreal paper of to-day's date. Now, that is a striking illustration that this friction is there, and that something should be done to avoid such a condition of affairs. There is there a British fleet, not to protect necessarily British interests but to protect the old French right, to protect French treaty rights against the incursions of Britishers. I do hope this resolution will pass unanimously, because we do wish to be one united Confederation in Canada, such as Sir John A. MacDonald proposed we would be. His idea was, as I will read you from the Confederation debates in Mr. Sanford Evans' work on "Canadian Imperialism"—

Mr. Evans, whose eloquent speech we were all so delighted with. Sir John said: England will have in the whole of North America a friendly nation to stand by her in peace as in war, the whole of North America; the people of Australia will be such another nation; and England will have then in her colonies under the federation system, nations which will assist in enabling her again to meet the whole world in arms as she has before." That is our aim. We are atoms, as Mr. Chamberlain has said, though united we have been. Let us unite those atoms and the ship of state will sail on under fair winds and greater hope. (Applause).

**MR. W. FRANK HATHWAY** (St. John, N.B. Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman: Would the gentleman allow me to ask him if he knows the duties on fish of all kinds coming into Canada from Newfoundland, and also if he knows how the debt of Newfoundland compares with the debt of Canada per head. I think questions like these should be considered before we discuss a resolution of this kind.

**HON. WILLIAM ROSS, M.P.** (Halifax Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman: In seconding this resolution, I may say that I think the question about the debt of Newfoundland is one that only requires to be considered when Newfoundland comes into the Confederation. That is the time to make the calculation. I can tell the gentlemen who has just asked the question, that all fish and oil coming from the colony of Newfoundland is free coming into Canada. Some years ago a delegation came from Newfoundland asking to be allowed to come into Confederation, but by some unfortunate circumstance the terms they then asked were not accepted. I think there should have been better consideration for the delegates of Newfoundland then. Newfoundland to-day is prosperous; there is an increase in their revenue; and like individuals when they get to be prosperous they get saucy. I do not know that Newfoundland is prepared to come into Confederation to-day. Outside of St. John's and Harbour Grace, there is no public opinion in Newfoundland. In those towns there are Englishmen, Irishmen, and last, though not least, Scotchmen, and these people with all their opinions are determined to hold as they are and they would be very much afraid, after coming into Confederation, that the people of Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Halifax and St. John, N.B., would meet them on their own ground, and compete with them for some of that trade. That is probably one of the reasons why they are not anxious to enter Confederation. I have no mandate to speak for the Dominion Government, of which I am a humble supporter, but I can say this without hesitation, that if a delegation came from Newfoundland to-day with a proposition to enter into our blessed Confederation they would receive ample consideration from the Dominion Government. (Hear, hear). There is not the slightest doubt about that, and if the people of Newfoundland were true to their own interest it would be a blessing to them and to every poor fisherman who makes his livelihood in that colony to come into Confederation. I have just one word to say besides this, and it will be the last, because I have another Parliament than this to attend to-morrow. When you find the Ethiopian change his skin, when you find the leopard changing his spots, when you find the waters of the St. Lawrence flowing into Lake Superior, then you can make Englishmen out of Irishmen and Scotchmen. (Laughter and applause).

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** In the meantime the question before us is whether we shall make Newfoundlanders into Canadians. I do not see anyone wishing to speak. Shall I declare this resolution carried?

**MAYOR R. J. GRAHAM** (Belleville Board of Trade): May I offer just a word or two.

**A DELEGATE:** I rise to a point of order. Belleville has imposed itself on this Congress to an intolerable degree.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** I cannot interfere as a question of order on a matter of good taste.

**MAYOR GRAHAM:** I just mention that Newfoundland is on the map of British North America, but has no representative here. I think it is significant.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** There are other things going on to-day, gentlemen, beside our Congress and I will just interrupt the proceedings a moment to tell you that the yacht race is off owing to the boats being unable to finish within the time limit. At the same time I want to ask you are we going to declare our afternoon meeting off because there is no chance of a finish in the time limit? Shall we adjourn or shall we go on?

**SEVERAL DELEGATES:** Go on.

The resolution was adopted.

#### TITLE TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Who moves resolution No. 53, which reads:

"That if the large tracts of land, such as Raffen Land, Prince Albert Land, etc., situated to the North of Canada, are not at the present time part of the Dominion of Canada, or of the Empire, and held with a clear title, steps should at once be taken to have the possession established.

**MR. CYRUS BIRGE (Hamilton):** Mr. Chairman: After a consultation with my colleagues and in order to avoid taking up the time of this Congress we have decided, with the permission of the Congress, to withdraw this resolution and leave the matter more for the consideration of our own Government than this Congress.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** Do you consent to this resolution being withdrawn?

Resolution withdrawn by consent.

#### NATURALIZATION LAWS IN BRITISH EMPIRE.

**MR. GEORGE ANDERSON (Toronto Board of Trade),** moved:

It is resolved "That in the opinion of this Congress the Naturalization Laws of the various parts of the Empire should be so unified so as to make any citizen who has been duly naturalized in any part of His Majesty's Dominions a British subject wherever the flag waves, and entitled to the full rights and privileges of a native born."

**MR. ANDERSON said:** Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: It is only fair in rising here for me to state that Mr. E. T. Malone, K.C., of Toronto, was expected to move this resolution, but he is unavoidably absent and I am called upon to move the resolution in his place. Gentlemen from the British Islands, I am sure, rejoice in their British citizenship, but I can tell you that I rejoice and glory more than they do because I am British-Canadian born. I have here the Imperial Statute which governs the subject under discussion. It says:—

"All laws, statutes and ordinances which may be duly made by the Legislature of any British possession for imparting to any person the privilege or any of the privileges of naturalization, to be enjoyed by such person within the limits of such possession, shall within such limits have the authority of law."

So it appears clear that a person naturalized in any of the colonies, Canada for instance, during his stay in that colony, has the privileges of a British subject, but when he goes outside of Canada, or whichever colony he has been naturalized in, he again becomes an alien. That is not right. It is not fair. In 1901, a committee was appointed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to consider the doubts and

difficulties which have arisen in connection with the interpretation and administration of the act relating to naturalization. The committee reported recommending a provision under which if conditions substantially identical with those which qualify for naturalization in the United Kingdom, were fulfilled by aliens residing in any other part of His Majesty's Dominions the Governor of the possession in which the alien has satisfied those conditions should be empowered to grant a certificate of naturalization to have the same effect as one granted by the Secretary of State. The main difference between the requirement for naturalization in the United Kingdom and Canada, is that in the former a residence of five years is required, while in Canada all that is necessary is three years' residence. So that it would be impossible for the authorities in Canada to grant complete naturalization under those circumstances. It is quite clear that the conditions in Canada and in Great Britain as to residence and other points should be the same, and that the Government of Canada or any other British possession should have the right to naturalize citizens on the same basis as Britain does. Canada has undergone during the past few years a very rapid development, and we know that there is in this country a strong Imperial sentiment, which the statesmen and thinking people of this country are going to force upon the attention of Great Britain and the other colonies. Among the questions of Imperial interest not the least important, is that to which I am now referring—the question of naturalization. The man in Canada as I said before, may be a British subject, but in Great Britain he might be of another nationality altogether. Now we all know that a change of nationality depends on the consent of the person, and a certain operation of law, swearing him in as a British subject. We have no difficulty at all with natives born in Canada. A few years ago when I had the pleasure of going to Japan, I was accompanied by two British citizens of different blood altogether. One was a full-blooded Chinaman born in Hong Kong. The other was a Brahmin, born in India, and both claimed and gloried in the right of British citizenship. Under the present law, a native has a distinct advantage, which he would have I suppose. In the naturalization of persons we should exercise great care, because we are all aware that with some persons, those of an Oriental turn of mind especially, it is very difficult to explain to them the meaning of the freedom and liberty of British citizens. A citizen who becomes naturalized should be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the native born, and should be subject to the same obligations which native born citizens have. It is clear that the Imperial Parliament is the proper body to take the subject up, and to provide for a certificate of naturalization which will be recognized in all British possessions. That is the reason for offering this resolution. The British Parliament, the Imperial Parliament, should provide the machinery so that a citizen naturalized in one British possession may have the same rights and privileges and duties as if he were naturalized and sworn in in Britain itself. This is a matter which can be remedied only by the Imperial Parliament and I will just move the resolution which you have before you, which will be seconded by Mr. Cockshutt.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** I presume that you are moving the resolution of the Toronto Board of Trade, and also that of the Kaslo Board on the same subject.

**MR. COCKSHUTT:** I presume so, but I have been unable to find the Kaslo delegates and am unable to say whether they intend to offer their resolution distinct from ours. I will only occupy your time for a moment or two. I regret that this Congress has become so much depleted. I think the mover has made clear that if citizenship is granted to any one in the colonies



upon the conditions laid down by the colony, that man is only a citizen so long as he remains within the confines of that part of the Empire which has granted him citizenship. I don't think that is a right state of affairs. You have just placed on the table a resolution that confines Imperial contracts to British subjects. People are coming to Canada from all parts of the world and the position is this. They are righteous God-fearing men, who fulfill all the obligations which God and man have imposed upon them. They are granted citizenship after three years' residence, but the moment they step on a foreign ship or go to the United States, they are no longer Canadian or British citizens, but are thrown back upon that country from which they originally came, provided it is willing to take them back. Is that a proper state of things? British citizenship should not only be recognized in one part of the Empire, but should be recognized and acknowledged the same in all other parts. An eminent legal authority has stated, and I believe after complete researches, it is quite true, that a man may be a British subject in New Zealand; he may be of German or French extraction, but when he arrives in Great Britain for a trip, he finds he belongs to the nation he originally came from, and is not recognized. It has lately been enacted that no alien can contr share in a British ship; and still these men come to our territory in good faith—Americans, Germans, French—and are becoming Canadians and Empire citizens, as we understand it; but when they leave our shores, they carry no citizenship whatever. We ask in the resolution that Great Britain as the central authority, shall say what constitutes a British citizen, and if we fulfill all the conditions in the colonies, it should be recognized in the Mother Land that gave that law its birth. Can we boast our citizenship if anything less is given to those we take in in good faith. The resolution is one of the utmost importance, and I trust the British authorities will enact a law that if a person has fulfilled all the conditions, he will be a citizen wherever the British flag waves, and entitled to all the rights of a native born.

Mr. F. W. Cook (Dudley Chamber of Commerce) : I have listened with very great pleasure to the speeches, and while we have colonies in different parts of the world, there seems some misgovernment in regard to them. It should not be possible a man should be naturalized in one part of the Empire and, going into another part, find he is not a citizen, and especially so with regard to the Mother Country. Throughout this Congress there has been a tone of unity and Imperialism, and a sentiment and affection expressed both by Canadians and British with regard to one another, and which I am sure will, when we leave this land, which has been so hospitable to us, dwell in our memories many years. We want that fostered. It seems to me some kind of an Imperial Federation is needed, which shall bring the laws into unity, and therefore I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution. During the Congress several speeches have been made on emigration, and it has been reported to me on good authority, that a very large stream of emigration has gone from Canada into the United States. I have tried to inquire into it, and have found the conditions upon which immigrants come to this country is not quite clearly expressed to them when they come over. The railway companies here have a system which renders it necessary for their employees to go to the very small stores and get credit. The companies keep several day's pay in hand and then pay by cheque. That is why many of the immigrants coming into this country have afterwards gone elsewhere.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

## COPYRIGHT.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : It does seem absurd that a few gentlemen should sit here and discuss the matters on the programme. When I suggested adjournment to go down on the "Sunbeam," they said, "Go on," but they went out. (Laughter.) I don't think there is any chance of finishing to-night at the rate things are going. If so, would it not be better to adjourn. I am told, however, there is a deputation here from Toronto, who wish to return to-night. If that is so we might take the next resolution, and then adjourn until to-morrow morning.

Mr. F. W. Cook (Dudley Chamber of Commerce) : I move that the next resolution, No. 56, be taken up by Congress, and that we then adjourn until to-morrow morning.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN : We will take up resolution 56.

Mr. D. E. THOMPSON, K.C. (Toronto Board of Trade, moved.

Mr. THOMPSON said : If you will kindly give me your patient attention for a few minutes I will endeavour, as concisely as I can, to lay before you the present position of a subject which I find is not generally understood. The motion I have the honor to move is No. 56, but I want to make this explanation, that there is a typographical error in the copy. It should read : "Resolved, the Parliament of Canada," but the words "of Canada" are omitted, and with your leave I propose to add three other words, and they are these : "It is resolved that the Parliament of Canada has," and then I propose to add "or should have." This would make the resolution read:—

It is resolved "That the Parliament of Canada has, or should have, the same right to make its own laws on the subject of copyright as the other subjects within its jurisdiction enumerated in section 91 of the British North American Act, and that without the absolute and unqualified recognition of this right by the Imperial authorities the status of Canada as a self-governing colony is incomplete."

I suggest that change in order to make it clear. I am using the word "right" in its broad and fundamental sense, and not as a matter of legal right. I am not arguing before you that the Canadian contention is right and the English wrong as to the meaning of the British North America Act on this point. The point of the resolution is to assert that we are entitled to govern ourselves on this subject the same as any other.

I know it will surprise some of our friends from England, and perhaps some people in Canada to be told that that right has up to this time been denied us. I find that Lord Brassey, the Chairman of this Congress, referred to the language of Earl Russell that it was the purpose of the British Empire to give self-government to all its component parts. I hope some one—I am sorry that our worthy Chairman is not here—I hope some one will tell Lord Brassey that with reference to the subject of copyright that purpose has not yet been carried out.

I find that that eminent member of the greatest legislative body in the world, the House of Commons of England, Sir William Holland, in his remarks yesterday, made use of this language. He said : "Canada is and must be the best judge of what is the true interest of Canada. It is one of the glories of our Empire that a free hand is given to our self-governing colonies to carry out what they each do in their own true interests." I hope Sir William Holland when he returns will enter on his parliamentary duties with the recollection and appreciation that these words are nothing until the authorities have recognized our right in Canada to deal with this subject.

I find also that another eminent English member of Parliament to whom we have listened with delight, Mr.

Walton, referring to the Canadian people said: "To whom they had given absolute autonomy." That is another member of the British House of Commons who will require to revise his language and to realize that it is not yet accurate.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the position of the matter is this. Before Confederation in 1842, the Copyright Act which is still in a large measure the law of England, was passed by the Imperial Parliament. It was made applicable to England and the colonies. Even at that time the most strenuous protests were made on behalf of the colonies, and particularly of the British American colonies, against making the law applicable, partly because they perceived its provisions to be unsuitable to their conditions and partly because they thought they ought to have the right to legislate on that subject even at that early day and that agitation became so forcible that in 1846, Mr. Gladstone, then a Minister of the Crown gave Englishmen a warning that they would have to modify any exclusive view which might prevail in regard to this important subject. And shortly afterwards Earl Grey, then the Secretary of the Colonies, gave the assurance to the Board of Trade, he was addressing, that after repeated remonstrances had been received from the North American colonies on the subject of the circulation there of literary works of the United Kingdom, he proposed to leave to the colonial legislators the responsibility and the work of enacting the laws they might deem proper in the interests of the authors and in the interests of the public.

Now, why did the Secretary of the Colonies make that public statement at the time in England, but a formal despatch was sent by him to the Governor of each of the colonies embodying the same promise. Now, that is an extraordinary thing. That promise was solemnly made in 1846, and remains unfulfilled until the present date. Instead of that, as Lord Knutsford in a communication in 1891 or 1892, to the heads of the department, points out—he points out instead of that being done the Imperial Parliament has what is called "the Foreign Reprints Act of 1847," which, without going one step further than the law had before gone in the direction of recognizing the right of the colonies to make their own laws, altered the Imperial law and provided that certain provisions being made by the colony to the satisfaction of the Imperial authorities for the collection of a fair royalty to the author, then these or foreign reprints might be admitted into the country. That was the means of supplying Canada at that time with American reprints.

Now, I have no time, Mr. Chairman, knowing how short the time before me is—I have no opportunity of going into the details. I must summarize in the briefest way. It is customary here to lay the blame for all that delay that has taken place during all these years on the Imperial authorities, but I think it is fair to say that I do not consider that is the case. I think that we must bear some of the responsibility ourselves. I consider that the matter was neglected by our people and sometimes it was pushed on false grounds, and it was not until my distinguished namesake, Sir John Thompson, became Minister of Justice, that this subject was ever put before the British authorities. If you want to follow the history of the question you will find it better given in Lord Knutsford's despatch and in Sir John Thompson's reply than anywhere else.

Now, the position of the matter is this. As I say, we are still denied our rights to legislate on this subject. We in Canada talk a great deal of our loyalty, and sometimes I think we put it forward too much. Sometimes I think we doth protest too much. I hear Englishmen speak very seldom of their loyalty, and, it seems to me that we have reached the point that our loyalty can

be taken for granted as well as the loyalty of Englishmen. I want to say to Canadians, and I would like to remind them in this connection of the immortal words of Junius, "the subject who is truly loyal will not advise or submit to arbitrary measures." I think we have no right to submit to this, and we ought not to be expected to submit to it. I shall not discuss at all the terms of the law. That is not the point that I wish to bring before you. It may be that the law which has been passed by the Imperial authorities is a better one than the law which we have proposed to pass, but the right to govern ourselves includes the right to misgovern ourselves. It is better in one sense that we pass a bad law for ourselves than that anyone else passes a good one for us. We have the right to govern ourselves or else our self-government is a farce.

At this point the bell was rung. (Cries of time, time).

Mr. THOMPSON: Will you bear with me for a moment, gentlemen? I have referred to the deliverance of Sir John Thompson on the subject, and I am glad to find some testimony has been made to his work by the chairman of this Congress, and I would like to . . .

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Interrupting): If you wish to complete your point Mr. Thompson, it is all right, but if you are beginning a fresh point as you are now it is hardly reasonable.

Mr. THOMPSON: I am just ending, sir, I merely want to say that if we are allowed to parody the old song: "Sir John Thompson's body lies mouldering in the grave, but his soul goes marching on." There could never be a policy that is satisfactory to us that does not recognize our right to legislate for ourselves.

Mr. W. P. GUNDY (Toronto Board of Trade): I do not wish to trespass upon your time, gentlemen, and I will detain you but a few moments. I think it is essential that some things which Mr. Thompson did not have the time to say should be known by the members of this Congress, particularly those who come from across the water. The copyright is a monopoly. The copyright act of 1842 to which Mr. Thompson referred and which governs us to-day, was framed in the interests of the English authors and publishers, and was made to apply to the colonies. I suppose the law, to quote Sir John Thompson briefly—in those days in England the inhabitants of these colonies had no right to self-government. It was inconsistent with the interest of British publishers. I want to emphasize that to the people of England in these days. Just now, Mr. Chairman, it is the only monopoly which does so extend to Canada.

The agitation to which Mr. Thompson refers has continued for the last sixty years in this country and in 1867 when the British North America Act was passed it was assumed by Canada that the long deferred pledge to which Mr. Thompson referred, given by Earl Grey, Secretary to the Colonies, that Canada should have exclusive control over this question for itself—that that long deferred pledge would at last be made good. Unfortunately to this day, we have found ourselves disappointed. It has all along been held, not only by Sir John Thompson, but there has been a unanimity of opinion among the framers of our laws in Ottawa, that we have exclusive jurisdiction over this particular matter, and, indeed, they have united from time to time in pressing these views upon the Imperial Government, so far, however, without tangible success. Why? They were told for many years that nothing could be done for Canada on account of fearing that an arrangement with Canada would retard or interfere with negotiations with the United States, and when these negotiations with the United States were concluded by the passing of the Chase bill in 1891 in the United States, it was found,

Mr. Chairman, that all along, Canada has been making much less than was granted to the people south of us.

A DELEGATE: Never in negotiations.

Mr. GUNDY: If the gentleman wishes to differ from me he will have an opportunity of following. My time is precious. I want to emphasize the word "arrangement." I repeat the word "arrangement"—practically it is an arrangement between Great Britain and the United States, and it provides that: "If the English or Canadian author or publisher wants to secure copyright protection in the United States, he is compelled to set up his book there. He can then send a few copies to Stationer's Hall, London, and register them there, and that secures a copyright throughout the Empire." At that very moment England was refusing Canada the right to print at all, even on prints imported from Great Britain. In a word, if the English or Canadian author or publisher wants to secure copyright protection in the United States, he must set up his book there, print it on American paper, and bind it there. What happens? Supposing the United States author or publisher wants to secure copyright protection throughout the British Empire, what happens? Does he print his book in England or Canada? No, nothing of the kind—he simply sends a few copies of the book, printed in the United States, to Stationer's Hall, London, and registers it there, and the deed is done, and he thus secures copyright protection throughout the Empire. Talk about "give and take," Mr. Chairman—why it amounts to this, they give us the shadow and keep the substance. (Hear, hear).

Now, I refer to this with some emphasis, gentlemen, because you can easily see that because of the contiguity of the two countries and because for 3,500 miles our borders touch at every point, we should be permitted to legislate in matters of this kind in accordance with our own local conditions. In dealing with this matter, the imperial authorities have evidently lost sight of the very different conditions prevailing here from those in Europe, where the reading population is comparatively dense. We have here a population bordering on six millions, covering an area almost as large as the whole of Europe, and while Canadians are a reading people, they must purchase the books they read because they have not access to circulating libraries which so well serve the purpose of the readers in the Old Land. The expensive editions published in England do not meet with favor here, and it does seem unjust that we should be compelled to look to the publishers of the United States for the works of English authors. I have no desire now to prolong my remarks, I am cutting them practically in half, but there is one point I wish to draw attention to, that is, that we are insisting to-day in this resolution, on our rights as a free people, to legislate for ourselves in this, as in the other twenty-eight subjects guaranteed to us under the British North America Act. Among those subjects are patents and copyrights. They are side by side in the British North America Act. A patent is a monopoly in a machine—copyright is a monopoly in a book. Our right to legislate in patents has never been denied to us. Why should it be denied with reference to books.

Briefly, we want, Mr. Chairman, that our rights in this matter should be relieved of all doubt, that a long standing grievance should be removed, and that this question should be settled in one way or the other by the Imperial authorities. I venture to say, sir, that until this matter is settled the Canadian people will continue to insist on the voice of the Canadian Parliament being sufficient in this, as it is on the other subjects guaranteed to them under the British North America Act.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: We have the resolution moved and seconded, and I understand Mr. Blaikie, of Edinburgh, wishes to move an amendment.

Mr. WALTER B. BLAIKIE (of Edinburgh): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I regret exceedingly that I am obliged to inflict myself on you for a few minutes, but I understand that the Toronto Board of Trade are themselves desirous of hearing this copyright question treated from the British point of view, and before I go any further, I may say that I do not intend to do more than take up the very crux and kernel of what Mr. Thompson has said, and also later on, to point out, if I have sufficient time left, the difference in the American copyright from the view that the British Government takes of it, and that which Mr. Gundy has pointed out.

First of all I must controvert Mr. Gundy. Copyright is not a monopoly, but a property, and we cannot think of protecting it in any other way. The amendment I intend to move is that to the original motion the following words be added:

"That it is desirable that all legislation on matters of copyright be undertaken in conjunction with the Imperial authorities." (Hear, hear.)

To take up the first of Mr. Thompson's objections as they at present stand, he says, in the first place, that Canadians are denied their right to legislate. Gentlemen, this is not so. He says you should not submit yourselves to this. I reply there is no necessity. Canada has already got a copyright, and has her own laws within her own borders, and it seems to me that is enunciating a grievance which does not exist. It is only a few days ago since I left England, July 27th, that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council decided,—I am quoting the words of Lord Lindley reported in the *Times*—that "Copyright is placed by the British North America Act under the Dominion legislature. . . . and that copyright must be obtained by complying with the laws of the Dominion," thereby affirming that a Toronto firm had a right to reproduce. . . ."

Mr. THOMPSON: That refers to artistic copyright, not literary copyright. That has nothing to do with books.

Mr. BLAIKIE (Continuing)—Thereby affirming that a Toronto firm had a right to reproduce a picture which its proprietors had not obtained copyright of under the Dominion laws, and I think that after this decision it cannot be suggested that Canada has no jurisdiction. But, Mr. Chairman, at this time, what I would urgently request of my Canadian friends is to look at it from purely an Imperial point of view. Literary copyright for every British subject rests at present on the Act of 1842, the great Magna Charta of the author, which gives an author 42 years monopoly of his own work, or seven years after his death. But he has also got the Act of 1887, which secured to him international copyright in practically every civilized country except the United States. Gentlemen, this is a great heritage. It is true that owing to the intricacy and complexity of the subject, questions constantly arise, and perhaps consideration has been too long delayed, but at last the whole subject has been dealt with, and a comprehensive bill has been introduced into the Imperial Parliament to unify and simplify the law of copyright. It passed the House of Lords in 1899 and again in 1900, but before its introduction into the House of Commons it has been sent to the self-governing colonies for their consideration and approval which it now awaits. This bill gives fuller power to authors, extending to 30 years after their death. It gives to newspapers 18 hours protection of their news, but its especial feature is that it fully recognizes the powers of the self-governing colonies to control copyright within their own territory, provided that such control does not impair the international and Imperial rights which are enjoyed equally by every subject of the

British Crown. A British copyright is given to any person, British or foreign, who first publishes an original work in any part of the Empire, subject only to certain technicalities of registration, and the author may print his book where he likes. This copyright also carries the international rights in all civilized countries except the United States of America. For long that country denied copyright to aliens.

But even in the United States, after generations of struggling, it was in 1891 decreed that a copyright can be obtained by any one, American or foreigner, who first publishes his book there or publishes it synchronously in another country—provided always that he prints his book in the United States from type or plates made in the United States. And here is the great difference between us and the United States. This manufacturing clause is a very true hardship to the British printer and typefounder, and it is true that much work is done in the United States for British publishers owing to this, for it allows the British publisher to secure a United States copyright as well as a British copyright, and thus puts work into the hands of American printers and typefounders, which ought really to go to the British workman.

This veritable hardship, which we share with you, is incurred owing to the old free trade condition. But it may be that the vote taken this morning which shows a desire for an enquiry with a possible change of our fiscal policy, may produce a change in this matter as well as in others. I do not now press this, but merely mention it in passing.

But what I do say is this: Do not let us attack this great Imperial question piece-meal. I ask you rather to suggest improvements to the Monkswell Bill where it is not satisfactory, and to induce your own Dominion Legislature to adopt this bill or a similar one and let us have one grand Imperial measure, which every part of the Empire can accept.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: The amendment moved by Mr. Blaikie, of Edinburgh, is: That the following words be added to the resolution:—

"That it is desirable that all legislation on matters of copyright be undertaken in conjunction with the Imperial Parliament."

Mr. BOULTON (London Chamber): Mr. Chairman: I wish in a single word to second the amendment. Mr. Blaikie is one of the few people who understand this subject, and I think we are very much indebted to him for the able and lucid statement he has made in proposing this amendment.

Mr. CHAS. LANCASTER (Liverpool Chamber): I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that both the resolution and the amendment be withdrawn. It is obvious that to ask short of 10% of the members of this Congress (and I do not think there are more than 10% in the room at present), to express an intelligent vote on what is obviously a very technical and controversial question is not a very wise proceeding, nor would it redound to the credit of either the resolution or the amendment that such a vote should be taken. I respectfully propose that it should be adjourned, as if we vote upon them we shall turn down either the resolution or the amendment after having heard only a very imperfect discussion upon the question, as it is evident that the subject is one of such great dimensions that the discussion has barely been opened. It appears that a bill is now before Parliament with a view of dealing with this question and I suggest that a recommendation be sent to the Legislature reminding them of promises made years ago. I think both the mover of the resolution and of the amendment would act wisely in the interests of Canadian copyright to withdraw them. I do not think at present that to force a vote upon this meeting would be the best way.

Mr. BOULTON (London Chamber): I beg to make a few observations, and would make an appeal to the mover and the seconder of this resolution. We have proceeded hitherto in such extreme harmony in regard to all these questions, that it would be a great pity that at this late stage of the Congress that there should be an appearance of conflict of interest between the Mother Country and this colony of Canada, and whatever vote should be taken it can only be an expression of opinion, because in a question of international copyright or copyright between Great Britain and Canada, there is only one way in which it can be settled, and that is, by law. So whatever our resolution would be it cannot affect the subject and it will only produce a conflict of opinion, because the English Chambers will be bound to vote against the resolution. The mover and seconder have expressed their opinion very clearly and vigorously and I am bound to say, with great moderation. If they will be content with that and to take whatever steps may be proper with their own governments, I think it will be better than introducing what is after all a subject of controversy which may be said to have destroyed to a certain extent the harmony of this Congress. I do very earnestly appeal to these gentlemen asking them, if after expressing their opinions, they will withdraw their resolution and amendment.

Mr. THOMSON (Toronto Chamber): I am disposed to act on the suggestion, that has been made, on one condition, that I be allowed a few minutes to reply to the statements that have been made. I think that it is not a matter of vote that we are concerned about, but we do think it is a great gain if we can get the actual facts of this problem into the minds of even the 10% of the Congress that are here. I regret as much as any one that it has not been possible to find time for a proper and methodical discussion of this subject and I think if you will allow me to clear up one or two points, something will be gained, even if we have no vote.

The gentleman who has spoken last is mistaken in saying it is a matter for the courts, and also in saying it is a matter for the Canadian Parliament. It is a matter entirely for the Imperial Parliament.

Now the amendment would simply destroy the whole motion; it would negative our right to self-government and would only assert the continuance of the present condition of things. Mr. Blaikie is mistaken in what he supposes is the effect—of course he is not a lawyer—of the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council which was rendered the other day. The case in which that judgment was rendered arose under another statute, which relates to artistic copyright, and the decision of the court was that that statute did not apply to the colonies. That is the only point that was involved and consequently there is no doubt about the rights of Canada to legislate with regard to artistic copyright. But the law advisers of the Crown in England have advised, although there has been no decision by the court, that in their opinion, although the British North America Act purports to give power to the Dominion Parliament to legislate on copyright, that must be taken subject to the existing legislation of the Imperial Parliament made expressly applicable to the colonies. The act of 1842 by its terms applies to the colonies, and what the law officers of the Crown contend, is that it is not over-ridden by the British North America Act, that the only power we have is to regulate the business under that statute. Now just one word more. I am not here arguing against Imperial copyright or international copyright, but it will be time enough for any one to force Imperial copyright on us when there is an Imperial Parliament in which we are represented. This goes to the fundamentals of the whole matter. We have the right to govern ourselves



and if we are fit for our position we understand the requirements of this country better than the Imperial Parliament can. If we are worthy descendants of those from whom we sprung, the rights of everyone will be safe in our hands. I am glad to have this opportunity to explain the position to the Congress, and would ask leave to withdraw the resolution.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: As I understand it it is the desire of the mover and seconder to withdraw this resolution No. 56. Do you so consent?

SEVERAL DELEGATES: Yes.

The resolution was withdrawn.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: The resolution is declared withdrawn. There was a resolution made from the end of the table that after resolution 56 we should adjourn, but I do not see the mover or seconder of it

now. I am afraid we have not a quorum. I would have hesitated to put resolution 56 if a vote had been required, and therefore I am glad for that reason it was withdrawn. It seems absurd to go on with such a skeleton meeting.

COL. DENISON: Are there not some resolutions that will pass at once?

Mr. BOULTON: I beg to thank the mover of the resolution, Mr. Thompson, and the seconder for their courtesy in withdrawing it.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: It is impossible to finish to-night. We have 79 resolutions and are only at 56.

A DELEGATE: I move we adjourn till 9.30 to-morrow morning.

The motion was agreed to and the Congress adjourned until 9.30 a.m. Friday morning.

## FIFTH DAY—FRIDAY. AUGUST 21st, 1903.

The Congress resumed at 9.30 a.m., Mr. S. B. Boulton, London, in the Chair.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. S. B. Boulton, of London): Gentlemen: I am sorry that there is such a small audience this morning, but we must press our business through and get it over by half past twelve or one o'clock at latest. I will now call up resolution No. 57, having reference to Trade Marks, and ask Mr. Charleton to introduce it.

### TRADE MARKS.

Mr. CHARLES CHARLETON (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): moved:—

"That taking into consideration the resolutions which have for some years been unanimously adopted by the Association of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, and the resolution which was adopted at the last Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire calling upon the British Government to grant facilities for a full enquiry into the unsatisfactory working of the present laws relating to the registration of Trade Marks;

"It is hereby resolved that the Imperial Government be strongly urged to afford further delay a full enquiry into the unsatisfactory working of the said laws and the administration thereof with a view to early legislation thereon;

"That in the opinion of the Congress it is highly desirable that His Majesty's Government should take such steps as will secure the early adoption by the Government of British India, of laws for the registration of Trade Marks within its jurisdiction;

"That His Majesty's Government be requested to make such representations to and to use its influence with the respective authorities as will lead to the adoption of uniform laws for the registration and protection of Trade Marks throughout the whole of the colonies and dependencies of the British Empire."

Mr. CHARLETON said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I do not propose to take up much of your time with the resolution on Trade Marks. It is one of our old resolutions which, like the decimal system, has been before the Congress for many years. The reason why it appears so often is probably because of the conspicuous delay of Parliament and it is closely allied to another of our chestnuts, if I may say so, and that is parliamentary procedure. We, of the London Chamber have for many years been for a bill on this particular subject. As we could not get the Government to bring forward any bill we did so ourselves. On two occasions we brought forward a bill and on each of these occasions it went to a second reading. These were fathered by Mr. Fletcher Moulton and others who are authorities. This year the Government brought in its own bill, which also went to the second reading. There, all three bills in different years stopped. The reason for the legislation we ask for is very simple, in fact it is simply a question as between Statute law on trade marks and judge-made law on the same subject. These so conflict that it is very difficult

to get any opinion on the state of the law. It is difficult to get a settled decision, especially as to the word "description." You are aware you cannot register a trade mark if it contains anything known to the world. That is why we brought forward this matter. The second part of the resolution, in regard to the adoption by the Government of India of laws of registration, is highly necessary. (Hear, hear). The reason why nothing has been done in India is, I regret to say, due to the action of the Chambers of Commerce of India. I would ask our friend, Mr. Mellobert, to assist us, and his colleagues also, on their return to that country, so that we who have trade marks may be protected. We often find that a mark is registered in India, and when the rightful owner of the trade mark in England goes to register, he finds some one else has registered his mark ahead of him; and if you want to register your own property you have to buy out the man who holds the wrongful registration. The third item of the resolution speaks for itself. It is plain that on matters of this kind the same law as to priority of trade marks should obtain in the colonies and dependencies. (Hear, hear).

Mr. W. F. BEARDSHAW (Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): Mr. Chairman: I rise to second the motion proposed by London. As you are aware Sheffield is particularly interested in this matter. We think legislation is necessary, preceded by an enquiry. The Sheffield Cutlery Company has approached the India office and explained fully the nature of the legislation we require. The India office sent the letter to the executive committee, of which I am a member. We sent out to find the views of the different chambers on the matter, and they are unanimously, with one exception, in favor of the adoption by British India of such legislation. That exception is Manchester, and I venture to say that if Manchester again to-day prefers any objection we might overcome it by asking for a register of trade marks on cotton goods. As far as we can find the other Boards of Trade are all unanimous in asking for legislation. It is in the direction of more complete unity between the different parts of the Empire.

Mr. ELIJAH HELM (Manchester Chamber of Commerce): I suppose Mr. Beardsshaw to mean that cotton fabrics under numbers 23, 24 and 25 be exempt in the case of India. If that is so it should be expressed in the resolution, for after very long experience, we in Manchester are convinced that only evil would result from the establishment of a separate registration in India. I think in the cotton class we have many more trade marks than in all the other classes put together. Where you have thousands and hundreds of thousands of marks it is very difficult to say what is original and what is an in-

fringement. Infringement means many complicated points. It is infringement if there is a certain resemblance, and you cannot tell whether there is resemblance unless you have before you all the registered marks, all the refused marks and all the marks that are common property. That we have in England. From the first the Patent Office has recognized the trade marks committee of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. There is a branch of the office in Manchester, and in large rooms there are put up fac-similes of all the marks in existence, those registered in one room, those incapable of registration in another room, and those which are still under consideration or which have been refused, in another. Now, our committee meets from time to time, once every couple of weeks or so, and all the marks which are in the least degree doubtful are referred to that committee. When the marks come forward there is an immediate means of determining whether the new applicant is an infringement in bringing forward a mark which is a colorable imitation of a registered mark or of one which has been refused, or which is common. I will give you an example of the mischief which would be wrought by such a law as this resolution asks for. Quite recently British North West Africa has set up registration of trade mark, and the first thing they did was to register marks incapable of registration at home, because they had not the machinery to tell they were not proper marks. Unless you have machinery to tell whether a mark is original or not registration is worse than useless. You may put a man on the register, you give him an exclusive right to a mark, and any one who brings out a trade mark like it is liable to a penalty. If, therefore, words are included in this resolution excluding India, I think we will be satisfied.

HONORABLE M. A. McROBERT (Upper India Chamber of Commerce, Cawnpore) : I think I can with great confidence support the London Chamber in their scheme to induce a system of trade marks in India. I have had myself frequent opportunities of witnessing the difficulties because of the absence of trade mark registration. The only way the proprietor of a mark can prove his ownership is by showing that it has been his for a certain term. The absence of a system of registration exposes innocent people to trouble and loss. I have known myself of cases where Manchester goods of a particular mark were asked for and when they arrived in Calcutta it was found that they were a tolerable imitation of somebody else's mark. I think it is only right the London Chamber should be supported in this proposition.

Mr. F. W. COOK (Dudley Chamber of Commerce) : I cannot realize the position that Manchester takes in this matter unless it be that in Manchester there is machinery to carry out the trade mark law, while in India they have not. But if it is possible to keep copies in Manchester it is quite as feasible to keep them in London or India. I rise to refer to recent litigation in regard to trade names. Recently in connection with the dry goods trade, extensive litigation has gone on by reason of Americans coming in and taking up names and then Englishmen coming along with the same name. It is not fair that our own manufacturers should be penalized in the interests of foreigners. And I do think that this question should be taken up not only for the British Chambers of Commerce, but also for the Empire, and that we should have a universal and unified law with regard to this question. As it stands now, the situation is a great inconvenience and I do hope that this Congress will urge upon the Government to carry the thing through.

Mr. H. P. MANSH (Sheffield) : I would like to support the resolution of the London Chamber, and I see no objection if it is limited to cotton goods only. But I do think that Manchester should get into line with the other trade mark registration districts, and that

Manchester should put all their designs and their encyclopædia of information at the disposal of the Government authorities in London, and if any mark is proposed to be registered in London it should be treated as cutlery in Sheffield. Any new mark is duly looked into there by a committee of the Cutlers' Company, which is constantly sitting. I think that is what we should have, and when a mark is thus registered for any class of manufacture it should be good for the whole Empire. Not only steel and cutlery, but also cotton goods should come into line in this respect, and this Chamber will not consent to except India from the first part of the resolution, and if any alteration is made it should not apply to cotton goods only. All classes of merchandise should be included, not of cotton but cutlery and other goods also.

Mr. R. S. FRASER (London) : In reference to the resolution I would very much indeed like that there should be tacked on a provision that we appoint a deputation to wait upon the Government Board of Trade and press upon the Government that the resolution should actually be put into force. Those who have any acquaintance with the British Government Board of Trade will know how necessary such a deputation is. Anything more ineffective, more incapable of giving effect to the resolutions of business men than the Board of Trade, you cannot very well suppose. I move that a deputation be appointed to present the resolution to the President of the Board of Trade with a view to urging upon him that effect be given thereto.

The CHAIRMAN : Will the mover accept?

Mr. CHARLTON : I have consulted with the seconder and I am sorry that we cannot accept the change suggested by the representative of Manchester. What we desire is a unification of the laws of the Empire with reference to trade marks. It is far better that a question of this kind should be handled in an official manner than in a departmental manner. Manchester has done good work in collecting the list described. It will be most useful to those using trade marks and to those concerned in the registration thereof. Such a list as the representative of Sheffield has suggested should be held at the disposal of those concerned in the matter.

Mr. ELIJAH HELM : Since the mover and seconder of the motion are unable to accept my suggestion, I am obliged to move an amendment. It will read :—

"Provided that cotton, yarn and fabrics produced in classes 23, 24, and 25 of the British Standard shall be excluded from such registration."

I spoke once on the matter and will not trouble you again further than to say that in the matters which have come before the Congress, none has been more important than this.

Mr. S. W. ROYSE (Manchester) : I beg to second the amendment proposed by Mr. Helm. We, in Manchester, know best what is required for the textile industry of that great centre. I do not see that the additional words proposed can have any harmful effect upon the efforts which the London Chamber of Commerce are making.

The Chairman then put the amendment and declared it carried.

The resolution as amended was adopted.

#### PATENT LAW ADMINISTRATION.

Mr. S. W. ROYSE (Manchester Chamber of Commerce), moved :—

"That this Congress, impressed by the difficulties arising from the diverse systems of patent law administration in the various parts of the Empire, and the heavy cumulative cost of securing patent rights therein, recommend to all Chambers (1) that they should severally consider the question of assimilating such law and administration and reducing the cost; and (2) that the result of their deliberations

hereupon be forwarded to the Manchester Chamber before the end of the present year, with a view to the preparation of a scheme of reform to be afterwards submitted to each constituent Chamber for its approval."

Mr. ROYSE said: This subject, as you will have seen from the resolution in the agenda, is not a contentious one, but I would like to point out a printer's error. The word "and" should be inserted before "administration," in the agenda it is left out. I am sorry that Mr. Levinstein, Vice-President of the Manchester Chamber is not here, as he has given a great amount of thought and attention to the subject, and, as many in this room may perhaps know, he has for years agitated for a change in the patent laws which simply affect Great Britain and the last three or four years that agitation has been quite successfully carried through, though not quite so successfully as might have been hoped, but still much has been attained. We wish to get the British patent law into something like line. It is quite desirable that anyone in any part of the Empire should be able to take out a patent for a novelty, and that no hindrance should be put in the way of workmen who have any novel ideas to patent. Again, in the British Empire we require to take out something like thirty or thirty-five patents to cover an invention in the whole of the Empire, whereas in the neighboring nation of the United States, they can take out one patent for the whole area of the country, and the whole cost would be, to a British subject, only something like £20. For a British subject to take out a patent covering the whole Empire would cost £500 or £600. It is manifest, therefore, that the subject is one which requires unification and simplification. From time to time alterations have been made in the British Patent Act, and the alterations have been made in the laws of the Dependencies and anomalies have grown up. In Canada the patent must be worked within two years, whereas, in other parts of the Empire no such condition exists. Again, we have just now got an act passed which causes all foreign patentees to work their patent in Great Britain or grant a compulsory license. In Canada the cost of a patent is a few pounds, under £20, whereas a patent in Great Britain costs about £100. All these things clearly show that it is necessary for the matter to be reviewed, and in order that it should be thoroughly sifted, you will observe that at the end of the resolution it is mentioned—perhaps I had better read the resolution, which is:

"That this Congress, impressed by the difficulties arising from the diverse systems of patent law and administration in the various parts of the Empire, and the heavy cumulative cost of securing patent rights therein, recommend to all Chambers, (1) that they should severally consider the question of assimilating such law and administration and reducing the cost; and (2) that the results of their deliberation hereupon be forwarded to the Manchester Chamber before the end of the present year, with a view to the preparation of a scheme of reform to be afterwards submitted to each constituent chamber for its approval."

I don't know that more words need be said in support of the resolution, as it quite manifest that an alteration is necessary. I will beg formally to move the resolution.

Mr. F. SWANZY (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): I formally second the resolution.

Mr. THOMAS MACFARLANE (Ottawa Board of Trade): I hope that in anything done in this matter the principle which is adopted in Canada with regard to patents will be incorporated in anything that may be done in England, namely, anyone patenting an idea in any part of the Empire should be obliged to carry it out there. We very much object to the system prevailing in England, where a man may take out a patent, keep it unworked in England, but have it carried out else-

where and sell the improvement in England. That is a feature of the English law which is denied in Canada, and with much advantage to the country.

Mr. S. W. ROYSE (Manchester Chamber of Commerce): The Manchester Chamber of Commerce, in proposing this, is thoroughly in accord with the Canadian practice. We shall be only too glad to have a strictly rigid clause for the working of any patents within a given time, in the country granting them.

Mr. BODINGTON (British Chamber of Commerce, Paris): At the time of the International Patent Convention, France took a very strong stand on that very question, and several delegates to the convention endeavored to get her to abandon that clause which compels a patentee to manufacture in France within two years of the granting of the patent. France declined to do so, and I think rightly. Every nation should adopt the clause which works so well in France.

Mr. E. LILIENTHAL (Pretoria Chamber of Commerce): I would suggest the date be extended to April 1st or July 1st next year, in consideration of the different colonies.

Mr. D. J. MUNN (New Westminster Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I quite approve of this resolution, having had a good deal to do with patents of one kind and another in Canada, and in Great Britain as well as in Australia. There is a great deal of difficulty and expense attached to securing patents in the various parts of the world, and I for one would like to see the patent laws readjusted and rearranged in all parts of the Empire in order that inventors or those who are endeavouring to get patents on their inventions or discoveries should do so as cheaply as possible. If there is one thing better in the United States than anywhere else that I am acquainted with in reference to patents, it is the manner in which the work in the Patent Office is carried on. (Hear, hear). And I don't think there could be anything which will stimulate invention and manufacturing better than good patent laws, laws which will protect the invention and, which will tell the inventor at a minimum cost whether his discovery is worth anything or not.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: Having no other name before me I will put motion No. 58 to the members of the Congress, those in favor will please signify in the usual manner.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

A DELEGATE: Mr. Chairman: I would just like to ask if it is not possible that a committee be formed to meet at some date, to be later fixed—the members to be from the distant colonies. I do not want to move this as a resolution, but in sending the particulars from the different chambers if they would mention that someone would be able to attend at London at a convenient time, say, towards the middle of next year, I think, perhaps, it would facilitate the matter.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: By and by, I will move a resolution which is not on the programme, but which arises out of the discussion. I am going to move personally that the London Organization Committee be authorized to take such steps as it may deem advisable to carry out the resolutions which have been passed. (Hear, hear.)

#### CODIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL LAW OF THE EMPIRE.

THE ACTING CHAIRMAN: I was to move this resolution myself, but it would not be convenient for me to do it from the chair; therefore, I will call on Mr. Bodington, of the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris. He is a gentleman of the law—a barrister—and this qualifies him to give a thorough explanation of the subject, which I am sure he will do clearly.

Mr. O. E. Bodington (Paris [British] Chamber of Commerce), moved:

"That no definite solution having been arrived at by the British Government on the resolutions adopted by the Fourth Congress in 1900 on this matter, it be an instruction from this Congress to its component Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce to approach the governments of the respective participating Colonies and of the United Kingdom, with a view to representations being made to the Home Government through the colonial Premiers and the representative associations in the Mother Country, in order that, before the date of the next Congress, at least one branch of commercial law may be codified."

Mr. BODINGTON: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I do not know whether there is anyone here who disputes the utility of qualification generally, but at all events, for myself, I can say that I was trained in a school of law where the codification as a principle, passed from the range of discussion into that of accomplishment very nearly one hundred years ago—for you will recollect that next year that monument of legislative achievement, the Code Napoleon, will attain its hundredth birthday. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you, gentlemen, but I would like to call your attention to the fact that this question, in so far as it concerns the British Empire, has not been neglected by the profession to which I have the honor to belong and to which you will naturally look for its ultimate solution.

We have, in England, a Society of Comparative Legislation, of which I am a member, and which has for one of its main objects the collection of the material of the laws of the different branches of the British Empire with a view to codification—in the first instance, of those branches of law which are most easily susceptible of codification.

Now, there is no branch of law which, perhaps, is easier of codification than commercial law, and, so far as the United Kingdom is concerned, we have begun to work, legislatively speaking. You know that in 1882 we codified very successfully, as I think, the law of bills of exchange. Since then, my friend, Captain Angier, if he were here, would tell you that we have codified the law of merchant shipping, and we were on the point of practically codifying the law of marine insurance if it had not been for that unfortunate system of blocking which is too easily permitted, perhaps, in the British House of Parliament.

Now, I am not going to detain you any longer, but I should like to give you just a little object lesson. I have not with me here a copy of the French Code of Commerce, but it is a little book something about the size of this pocketbook which I hold in my hand (about three inches by six). Every merchant can carry it about in his pocket, and very often does. It is couched not in mediaeval jargon, but intelligible and modern French, readable by everybody, and I express the hope that it is within the bounds of possibility that at no great distance of time we may have a code as handy as that and in good modern English, just as intelligible as the French code.

Just one further suggestion to close with. The French commercial law is not only simple of itself, but the French have specially wide rules of evidence applicable to commercial law. I think one of our great difficulties in England is the extraordinary technicality of the law of evidence, and I think that especially in commercial law we could somewhat relax these technicalities as the French have done, and by doing so we will benefit the whole commercial community of the Empire.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pollock will second the resolution.

Mr. J. L. POLLOCK (Paris [British] Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I do not think it is necessary under the circumstances, to make

any speech whatever in seconding this resolution. We all like to have things put before us simply and definitely, and I have no doubt but that the meeting without having any speech from me in support of this motion will cordially assent to what has been asked for.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Having no other names before me, I will now put the resolution.

Mr. WEBB (India): I would rise to a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Might I inquire if it is in order that two representatives of one chamber should be the mover and seconder of the same resolution?

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir, it is. It has been allowed before on several occasions during this Congress, and in this case, I might say it was the London Chamber of Commerce which was to have proposed this resolution—I was to have done it for them, but, as I am in the chair, it would not be convenient for me to do so, so I asked our friend, Mr. Bodington, and he was kind enough to take it for the London Chamber.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Now, resolution number 60 was to be proposed by the Belleville Board of Trade. Really, the resolution is almost identical with the one which you have just passed. I have been informed that the representative of the Belleville Board of Trade has left Montreal.

Mr. GRAHAM (Belleville Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman: I represent the Belleville Board of Trade, but, inasmuch as the principles contained in the resolution of the Belleville Board are practically included in that of the London Chamber of Commerce, we desire to withdraw our resolution.

#### CANADIAN CATTLE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Resolution number 61, Importation of Canadian Cattle into Great Britain—St. John Board of Trade—is the representative of the St. John Board of Trade here? If not, we must pass on to the next.

Mr. CHARLES LANCASTER (Liverpool): Mr. Chairman: I think this resolution was practically dealt with yesterday—this and the two succeeding ones—in a comprehensive resolution which was adopted during the luncheon hour. I therefore think that they are practically disposed of.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Boulton): It has not been submitted to the Congress. Will anyone now move this resolution? It is admissible for two or more Chambers to propose their compromise instead of the formal resolution. Now, does anybody do so?

Mr. JAMES NICHOL (New Brunswick): I merely want to move the resolution without any discussion at all, inasmuch as there is no member of the St. John Board here at present.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Will you take it on behalf of the St. John Board?

Mr. NICHOL: Yes, and I just merely move it without any discussion.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the Conference that this gentleman should represent the St. John Board of Trade?

VOICES: "Yes, yes."

Mr. NICHOL: This is a compromise resolution on the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain and it is as follows:

"That the present restrictions on the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain are unjust, so far as they are based on the dread of disease existing among such cattle, since any outbreak of disease is as rigidly guarded



against in Canada as in the Mother Country, and no infectious disease exists in Canada. And that such restrictions are also undesirable as they result in interference with the free development of trade, decreased supply of cattle and increased cost of meat to the British consumer, and that in the opinion of this Congress the present regulations of His Majesty's Board of Agriculture, so far as they relate to the importation into the United Kingdom of Canadian live cattle, under reasonable precautions, should at once be reconsidered."

This is a compromise which was effected and agreed upon yesterday, at a conference of the parties interested.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Does anyone second this resolution?

Mr. DILLON (St. Mary's, Ont.): I will second the resolution, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LANCASTER (Liverpool): I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I have been placed in charge of the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the same subject, but in pursuance of the agreement arrived at we withdraw our resolution, believing that all its terms are embodied in this.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I now put the resolution to the Congress.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

#### STATE OWNED TELEGRAPHS.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: The next resolution on the agenda is number 64, Wireless Telegraphy, proposed by the London Chamber of Commerce. The London Chamber of Commerce I understand withdraws that resolution and wishes that the resolution of the Ottawa and Toronto Board of Trade should take its place. Is it your pleasure that this should be done?

Agreed.

Sir Sandford Fleming (Ottawa), moved:

"That in the opinion of this Congress all the self-governing British communities around the globe should be united by a continuous chain of state-owned telegraphs. That such an inter-Imperial line of communication would, under government control, put an end to the difficulty which has been caused by the allied cable companies in Australia and remove all friction which has arisen between the partners in the Pacific cable: That it would lower charges to a minimum on over-sea messages passing between New Zealand, Australia, India, South Africa, the West Indies, Newfoundland, Canada, and the Mother Country; that it would provide a double means of communication at low uniform rates between the Mother Country, or any one British State and all self-governing British States; that it would constitute the most effective means by which the several governmental units of the Empire may hold communion with each other whenever they desire, and that while it would be of the highest importance in the commercial and social interests of the British people around the world, it would, by the sublimity of electricity, at once promote the consolidation of the Empire and prove an indispensable factor in Imperial unity."

SIR SANDFORD FLEMING: Mr. President and Members of the Congress: The proposal is that all the self-governing British possessions should be connected telegraphically by a State-owned and State-controlled chain of electric telegraph, that it should be a continuous chain girdling the Empire and encircling the globe so that in the event of interruption from any cause, telegraphic communication may nevertheless be maintained by sending messages in the opposite direction: that the submarine portions be laid, for better security in deep water; and that no part of the electric telegraph circle touch land which is not British. (Applause.)

That is the whole scheme. The Pacific Cable recently laid between Canada and Australasia is regarded as part of it. The cost involved in completing the whole scheme is estimated not to exceed four million pounds sterling. It would be held in common ownership by Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, India and South Africa. Its objects would not

be to earn large dividends, but as a self-supporting undertaking to serve great Imperial ends, to cheapen telegraphy to a minimum, to secure intercourse, to promote trade, and generally to contribute to the advancement and well-being of the British people in both hemispheres. (Applause.)

As to its necessity, sir, I have much to say on behalf of those I have the honor to represent. I shall, however, content myself at this late stage of the Congress by submitting a letter addressed to the President of the British Empire League in Canada, which I desire to have placed upon the record. The letter is as follows:

#### BRITISH EMPIRE LEAGUE IN CANADA.

Toronto Office: 23 Canada Life Building.

Toronto, August 20th, 1903.

Sir:

The Executive Committee of the British Empire League has the honor to direct attention to a matter of inter-Imperial importance affecting the relations of Canada, New Zealand, the Mother Country and Australia.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company and the Government of Australia have, subject to the approval of the Parliament of the Commonwealth, entered into an agreement which, if ratified, would be inimical to the Pacific cable and destroy the harmony which should exist between Australia and Canada, New Zealand and other parts of the Empire.

The Government of Canada and New Zealand have expostulated against the proposed agreement and expressed the hope that the Parliament of the Commonwealth will not ratify it.

The British Empire Review (London) for July, 1903, draws special attention to the conciliatory attitude adopted by the British Empire League in Canada, and in particular to the discussion at its last annual meeting in Ottawa and to the resolution unanimously passed on that occasion.

The Executive Committee of the League begs leave to submit for your information a report of the proceedings respecting the Pacific Cable at the annual meeting.

The object advocated is the completion of the Empire-girdling State-owned telegraph system, of which the Pacific Cable is regarded as the initial section. If Australia is the theatre of this dispute it is because a private monopoly has come into hostile contact with public interests within the limits of the Commonwealth; but the question is not an Australian one simply, it concerns the whole family of British nations, as all must suffer in this instance from the triumph of the monopoly.

There is only one effective remedy: It is to provide means independent of the monopoly of uniting telegraphically all the great outposts of the Empire so as to bring them into direct touch with the Mother Country and with each other. This object is not difficult of attainment, it can be effected by extending the principal of State-ownership to a single cable traversing the Indian Ocean, and another traversing the Atlantic Ocean, precisely as we have one across the Pacific Ocean. To accomplish this end it may in part become necessary, if not otherwise arranged, to subordinate private to public interests and exercise the powers of "Eminent Domain," by which private property may be appropriated as public necessity requires—just compensation being paid. By this inherent right possessed by the State, the dominant idea of a world-girdling line of state-owned telegraphs may readily be realized with the following results:

1. It would forever settle the dispute which has arisen and remove the possibility of any further friction of a like kind.
2. It would reduce rates on telegraph messages between Australia and England to half, and eventually to less than half the present charges.
3. It would play a most important part in the maintenance of the commercial, social and political relations of the whole British people.
4. It would provide a double means of telegraphing, that is to say easterly as well as westerly by a national line, at low uniform charges, between any one British state and all the other self-governing states.
5. It would be a most effective medium for daily communion between all the governmental units of the world-wide Empire, by and through which many questions would be settled as they arise, which, without it, might not be disposed of in months.
6. It would contribute in the most practical manner to the consolidation of the Empire.
7. It would prove in every sense an important and indispensable factor in Imperial unity.

We have the honor to be

Your obedient servants,

GEORGE T. DENISON,

President.

GEORGE E. EVANS,

Hon. Secretary.

To The President,

The Fifth Congress of Chambers  
of Commerce of the Empire.

I therefore move the resolution, merely adding that if it be carried. Copies should be sent by the Executive with such explanations as may be necessary to every British Government.

Mr. W. F. COCKSHUTT (Toronto): I have much pleasure, on behalf of the Toronto Board of Trade, in seconding the resolution of my honored friend from Ottawa. It is unnecessary that I make any remark. He is recognized as the highest authority of Canada in the matter of telegraphs and cables throughout the Empire, and I am safe in concluding that whatever Sir Sandford Fleming recommends in regard to the telegraph and cable system of the Empire, that it is on safe and right lines. (Applause.)

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: As I have no further names of gentlemen who wish to speak on this resolution, I will now put it to the Congress.

The resolution being put to the Congress was carried unanimously.

#### COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

Mr. LANCASTER (Liverpool Chamber): Mr. Chairman, gentlemen: Resolutions numbers 65 and 67 are identical. At the last Congress in London, in 1900, this resolution which the Vancouver Board of Trade has moved was word for word the resolution passed by that Congress. I believe the Belleville Board of Trade is exactly in sympathy, and in conference with the delegate who undertook to propose that yesterday, Col. Ponton, and who, I hope, will second the resolution I am now proposing if he is here, it was understood that the three resolutions on commercial education should be dealt with by the treatment and consideration of the first.

I therefore propose the first resolution, which is:

"That this Congress is of opinion that the utmost effort should be made throughout the Empire to encourage and furnish facilities for commercial education as a branch of technical and scientific study, and that the Home and Colonial Governments be asked to give special grants in aid thereof, and, further, the Congress is of opinion that Chambers of Commerce should be represented on boards of education in order to advance the interests of commercial education."

Gentlemen, this question of commercial education has been dealt with at so many previous meetings of associated and local Chambers of Commerce, and also at Congresses of the Empire, that it is undesirable—I should almost say unnecessary—to advance any arguments for your consideration in support of the resolution. It is obvious that we have at length wakened up to the necessity for commercial education and technical instruction in view of the enormous strides made in these departments by the nations of the continent, especially Germany, and in the United States of America, especially in the latter country, in technical education, and we cannot do better than throw off the lethargy of years and imitate these most important examples.

The resolution deals with commercial education as a branch of technical and scientific study. The whole of the businesses of the Empire fall into two departments, production and exchange—or, if you please, industry and commerce. The terms technical education and commercial education refer to the two departments, the first by improving and multiplying manufactures the best fitted for the country in which they are exploited, the second by multiplying the markets which can appropriate them when produced. Technical education means good handicraftsmen, and commercial education good buyers and sellers. The army of merchants, travellers, buyers, sellers, accountants, actuaries, agents, brokers and jobbers, are all fitted for their work by commercial education. The resolution of the Belleville Board of Trade refers very aptly to the practical setting of the brightest British minds

for the world's work, and this is a point of the first importance, which must never be overlooked. It is not necessary to plead for the necessity of education *per se*. The time has long gone by, though, perhaps, not after all so very long gone by, when the energy and ability of the Anglo-Saxon race were sufficient qualities to cope with the strenuous competition of our rivals. The great scientific progress of our age has given the quietus to these illusions. (Hear, hear.) We now recognize that education of every kind is indissolubly linked together, and it must have as a base a sound primary education, upon which must be built a superstructure of secondary education, in which technical and commercial education may find a place. It is clearly of little use laying a solid foundation unless something is constructed upon it.

Well, the warnings given to us for a number of years past tell us that we are, as a nation, behind the times. The struggle for existence, the expansion of the United States of America and Germany have opened our eyes to the fact that if we are to be saved from catastrophe it will be by our possession of a fair share of the markets of the world.

What then are the most important elements in both technical and commercial education? The answer is, first, intelligence and reasoning power, in a word, mental capacity generally; next, industry—regularity and punctuality in the performance of duty; next, a habit of facing difficulties until they are overcome—the power, great above all others, of concentration. These are the qualities which will grasp the use of languages and the more mechanical operations of technique.

Then who are to furnish these essentials? Why, of course the best boys of the secondary schools. The boys who shirk difficulties and avoid grappling with every problem are not wanted in commerce. In continental countries the first question asked about a youth is: what is his school record? In Germany, as we all know, if the school record is excellent it saves the student two years of military service, and this certificate of exemption ought to find its corollary in a school boy record of such worth as will qualify him for being the recipient of the State-aided benefits that we are here to-day to plead for.

We do not want technical instruction given to clerks, or foreign languages taught to handicraftsmen. We want the right education given to the right persons. Take our foreign rivals. Austria has colleges at Prague and Vienna; Belgium has the Institut Supérieure de Commerce at Antwerp; France has a dozen high schools of commerce in Paris under the direction of the Paris Chamber of Commerce, where, I am informed, four hundred students are to be found, and I am very pleased to see two members of the Paris Chamber of Commerce who are greatly interested in these schools seated on our platform here to-day. France has other schools at Bordeaux, Havre, Lille, Lyons, Marseilles and Rouen; Switzerland has fourteen schools of commerce, Italy four, while in Germany their number, as you all know, is legion. Boys in Germany take a six year course, that is boys who leave at sixteen, and there is a longer course which is completed at the age of 19. The great Leipsic College was started a few years ago, and hundreds have matriculated from it. Other countries, namely, Norway, Sweden, Russia, America, and Japan have joined in the movement. At commercial continuation schools, which are day schools for boys between the ages of fourteen and seventeen, who have been soundly taught in public, elementary or secondary schools, boys intended for commerce who desire to specialize in commercial subjects, have the opportunity of studying the same thing in the evening classes for a longer period.

Let us look at some of the curricula in the foreign schools. I would not advocate this as suitable curri-

culum for our schools, but it is well to look at what our rivals are doing. In the Antwerp College the examination for admission includes the following subjects which are taught in the preparatory course of the Institute previous to matriculation; French, German and English history, geography, bookkeeping, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, natural philosophy, commercial law and political economy. The students who have gone through this preparatory course are qualified to enter special courses for a final diploma. I should suggest adding the study of the monetary systems of the nations. Shorthand and typewriting are, of course, elementary subjects.

In Lancashire and Cheshire, where I come from, there are a large number of evening continuation classes, and out of fourteen thousand pupils prepared, five thousand are in shorthand and twenty-eight hundred are in bookkeeping. In advanced French, only about half the papers were worked; in German 25 per cent., and in Spanish 37 per cent. This shows that the chief object of the evening students is to gain that which will put him quickest in the way of earning some kind of a salary.

The boys we want to help are the boys who, if not poor, are at any rate not the sons of the well-to-do, who can afford to do without commerce. In the rough and tumble of commerce it is the poor clever lads who are wanted for privates, corporals and finally captains of modern industry—lads not too proud to take the humblest posts in business houses, from which they will emerge into places much nearer the top.

I have great pleasure in moving this resolution, but before I do so I would like to speak about an incident which occurred on board the Bavarian coming out. The Reverend J. E. Emery, President of the Ottawa University, in the Province of Ontario, was speaking to me about this resolution, and asked me when I moved it to say that he has written a letter to the effect that his University is prepared to meet in the commercial department the requirements of any reasonable standard, and to co-operate in any measure calculated to help the cause of commercial education, provided it be warranted by due encouragement, and by encouragement President Emery did not only refer to financial encouragement—though, of course, in an institution of that kind a scholarship would always be welcome—but he meant a Government recognition of an improved curriculum, which would serve as a standard for all schools and colleges where commercial education was taught.

I do not know that it is necessary to add one word in support of this resolution, which is a joint resolution, and I trust you will carry it unanimously, and that the committee of continuation of the efforts of this Congress to which the Chairman has just referred, will not lose sight of this burning question which is of so much importance to the development of the Mother Country and of all her colonies. I have much pleasure in moving the resolution.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Boulton): The Vancouver Board of Trade has kindly consented to withdraw its resolution and support that of the Liverpool Chamber, and I will call on Mr. Bell-Irving.

Mr. H. BELL-IRVING (Vancouver Board of Trade): I have been called upon at short notice to support this resolution, which I have much pleasure in doing, at the same time withdrawing the Vancouver resolution on the same subject. I have long felt that a thorough technical education in commercial matters is necessary for the youth of the Empire if we are to keep ahead in commercial and technological matters. We know how thorough this is in Germany. I can speak of it myself, having had a four year engineering course

in a German technological college. It is owing to this system that that empire has made such progress in the last twenty years. They have always shown themselves anxious to adopt the most modern methods. This is shown by their adoption of the metric system after the Franco-Prussian war, even though everything French was very unpopular. I found on going to England that the want of a commercial training was very marked. I found myself working on the staff of a great railway with university men who were all ignorant of practical and scientific matters, and accordingly things went on in the same old rut. Their superiors had had the same training and the result was want of progress. I think a commercial body like this should have a say in the curriculum. I have lately had a correspondence with a headmaster in Scotland, and he has been endeavoring to convince me that five hours of Latin and one hour of everything else is the ideal education for a boy. I do not see it. I think there are other things of more importance than the classics. The first principle of education is to fit a young man to push his own way in the world; that is the essence of a modern education. (Hear, hear.)

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Boulton): Belleville has a resolution on the order paper on the same subject, No. 66. Do I understand that Belleville will withdraw this?

MAYOR R. J. GRAHAM (Belleville Board of Trade): I am instructed by Col. Ponton, who had charge of this resolution, to say he had an arrangement with the first speaker to compromise. I therefore desire to withdraw the Belleville resolution in favor of the Liverpool resolution.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: That is very kind of Belleville.

Mr. RICHARD AINLEY (Morley Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I very much regret we have not a larger attendance to listen to such an important discussion. I come from the neighborhood of Leeds, and I think we may congratulate ourselves on the very excellent institutions we have in that city and its vicinity. Recently the Yorkshire College has blossomed into a university. But what I wish to say refers more particularly to our own local technical schools, and I notice in the resolution this expression: "that the home and colonial governments be asked to give special grants in aid." Now, our local technical schools depend to a very great extent on the grants of the county councils and the local municipal bodies. I wish to appeal to any of the delegates who are members of city councils or municipal corporations that whenever they have an opportunity they will help the schools in their districts by grants. Some years ago we adopted a resolution that a technical school should be formed under our own Congress, and for many years it was kept alive by grants from our Chamber. We have had difficulties, but I am thankful to say that to-day it is in a more promising condition than ever.

I would like also to emphasize the next point in the resolution, and that is that Chambers of Commerce should have representatives on boards of education. Now, I notice that in the great hnbub which has been caused by the introduction of another education bill in the House of Commons, that members of the Chambers of Commerce are totally ignored in the new Boards of management that have been formed in different parts of the country. That, I think, gentlemen, is a great mistake, and if we were to use our influence in our own particular neighborhood I think we should be doing education a good turn to support our own members of the Chambers who for many many years have had this matter at heart. For the encouragement of those who have worked for many long years

in connection with education and who, perhaps, sometimes have felt their hearts fail and have been disposed to relinquish their labors, I would like to say that twenty-five years ago I gave some little instruction to a lad who was then fourteen years of age, and I have in my possession the first picture that he ever painted; in fact, the first two pictures. That lad died in London a few days ago at the age of thirty-nine, but he had lived long enough to make his name known throughout the British Empire as one of the greatest black and white artists that ever lived. I refer to that cartoonist of the *Graphic*, Phil May. (Applause.) Do you think I ever regretted the little trouble I took with him in those days? This illustrates what has been said by another speaker, that if you put a lad going and show him his bent in life, and give him the slightest aid and encouragement or any other assistance either in your local technical schools or in some other way, you have done more for him than perhaps you dream of, and you have given that lad something that will never leave him. Mr. Chairman, I have much pleasure in supporting the resolution.

Mr. O. E. ROBINSON (Paris [British] Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman: I do regret to have to inflict my voice twice upon you in one morning, and especially on such a busy morning, but our Chamber takes such an interest in this matter that I feel that I cannot be silent. I am greatly indebted to Mr. Lancaster for the, I am afraid, too flattering reference which he has made to the presence of my colleague and myself from Paris. We also have dealt with this matter, although in a somewhat tentative and experimental way. We have in the last few years organized periodical examinations of young Englishmen in French, in commercial French I mean, and vice versa the examination of young Frenchmen in commercial English. We have only done this tentatively at present, but the examinations have been fairly well attended, and the certificates which we give to the most successful candidate appear to be appreciated and valued. That is all we have done at present, but I think that even this has had some good practical effect, and movements of this kind do something towards bringing about those more cordial relations of which we hear between France and England. (Applause.) It will be one of my first duties when I return to Paris to consider with my colleagues how we may transform this experiment into something more permanent and comprehensive.

Mr. GEORGE E. DAVIS (Bristol): I entirely agree with the spirit of the resolution, but I cannot help feeling that it fails to recognize the present position of education in England. Education in England to-day is so entirely in the hands of educational committees that it would seem quite useless to apply to the Government for any grants. As a member of the educational committee of Bristol and one who has taken a great interest in the matter, it would seem to me absolutely impossible to deal with it in the way that Mr. Lancaster would like. I see it is suggested that on boards of education, and I presume it is meant by that the educational committees, that there should be representatives there of the Chambers of Commerce. I ask anyone who knows the sacrifices of time that must be made by a member of an educational committee in England, I ask him whether any ordinary member of a Chamber of Commerce would be prepared to sacrifice his own time and leisure to the extent that it would be necessary for him to do so. I do not think for one moment that such a sacrifice would be appreciated. Let me make one practical suggestion. We have had this matter before us in Bristol and what we have done is this. A few members of the Chamber of Commerce who are willing to give some time and willing to take an interest in the matter approached one of the technical

schools of the city and suggested that we should have a class in commercial education. It has been managed by two members of our own Chambers and two masters of the technical college. The commercial class was advertised and a certain number of pupils entered. The subjects in which the pupils are examined are left entirely to the sub-committee of our own Chambers. I believe that a certain amount of practical education has been given by this means to a certain number of boys. The masters of public schools have an idea that classical education or a general training of the mind is of more advantage than instruction in technical subjects. To some extent I agree with this, but in these days of keen commercial competition it is necessary that we should specialize, to some extent at any rate. I just put this forward as a practical suggestion, because I do not think it is practical for members of the Chambers of Commerce to be placed on boards of education.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Boulton): I must ask gentlemen coming to speak to be as short as they possibly can, otherwise we shall, I am afraid, have to exclude some subjects.

Mr. F. W. COOK (Dudley Chamber of Commerce): I shall not weary you by going over the ground of previous speakers, but I would like to point out what has been done by Chambers of Commerce in connection with the new University of Birmingham. It is one of the latest which has been established, and in connection with it a chair of commerce has been started. The professor who has charge of it is an Englishman, who was trained at Oxford and then went over to Harvard, where he had charge of the Chair of commerce. He has visited every Chamber of Commerce in the district of Birmingham, to elicit from them the subjects which should be taught at the university, and he has endeavored to link up with university training, training from the secondary schools of the district, so that they should nurse and foster the university. The Chamber I represent was the first Chamber to assist the Chair of commerce by giving a scholarship. We have an education committee in connection with the County Council, which has annually taken up the examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce, and it has been most successful in getting students to qualify for that examination. The question Mr. Davidson has mentioned with regard to representation on the education committee of our County Council has been brought forward, and we have some four members of the Chamber acting in connection with the education authority.

Mr. JAMES CORMACK (Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures): I simply wish to say, speaking as I do, for the Chambers of Commerce of Edinburgh and Leith, that we have for some time had a special committee on education, a joint committee consisting of representatives from the Edinburgh and Leith Chambers, and the Merchants' Company of Edinburgh, and that joint committee has done excellent work. It has been warmly received; that is to say, its suggestions have been warmly received by the Scottish Education Department, which has shown not the slightest jealousy nor dislike to the committee, but has welcomed every suggestion which has been made by it. I mention that because I can quite appreciate the difficulty of our Bristol friend, when he says that it would be difficult to get business men to act upon boards of education. I think we have to some extent solved that difficulty by the constitution of the joint committee to which I have referred. The resolution proposes that the Government should find additional means for technical education. I think, perhaps, that the Government is scarcely to blame in this respect, except in regard to the residue grant, which was made optional whether corporations should devote it to technical education or to the reduction of rates, as some



have done. I think that was an unfortunate thing, and it should have been properly designated as to be specially applied to the purposes of technical education.

The CHAIRMAN (Lord Brassey who had now taken the chair): I now put to the meeting resolution 65.

The resolution was declared carried by a commanding majority.

#### TRADE DISPUTES.

The CHAIRMAN: We will now take up trade disputes.

Mr. S. B. BOULTON (London Incorporated Chamber of Commerce): The representatives of the Belleville Board, who have submitted a resolution on this subject, have gone away. The two resolutions you see on the agenda paper were of such a nature that the London Chamber of Commerce would have been obliged to oppose some of the clauses. I therefore ventured to ask the gentlemen from Belleville and Vancouver to meet me in my room, and they did so in a very cordial spirit, and we drafted a resolution on which we all three agreed. That resolution I am going to put to you:

It is resolved "That the strained relations existing between capital and labor demand legislative action throughout the Empire, for the purpose of preventing strikes and lockouts, which are disastrous to the interests of employers and employees, and to the whole country; and that this Congress is of opinion that legislative action should include the giving of sanction and encouragement to the promotion of voluntary conciliation Boards which have achieved a great measure of success in Great Britain:

"And, further, that labor unions and masters' trade associations in all cases be incorporated and registered."

This is one of the most important questions which could be brought before any Congress. We shall not absolutely have time to discuss it adequately, and I therefore venture to ask you to take the experience of the London Chamber of Commerce, which has entered very largely into this question. I ask you to take some of that for granted. The London Chamber of Commerce could not agree to the resolutions as they stood. There are many reasons why labor disputes should not be taken directly in hand by the Government in any country. There is the great danger they might get mixed up in party political considerations. We, in London, have found that the best method for settling these disputes is by voluntary conciliation boards. We have had one in London for the last eleven years, and I speak with some little knowledge of the subject, because from start to finish I have been Chairman of that London Conciliation Board, and we have been fortunate enough to settle a good many disputes, for we have found out that by inviting workmen to meet employers on equal terms and with equal voting power, you can get a very large amount of success, and you will find that the men when they come to sit around the Board together will, to a great extent, drop their class prejudices and become impartial in dealing with these matters. (Hear, hear.)

Now, there is another sort of opinion gaining ground to a small extent, but to a very small extent, in England, and I think in most other countries too, and that is that there should be compulsory arbitration boards. We, in London, at all events, and I think in England altogether, are very much opposed to any idea of compulsory arbitration on the part of the Government. The Government should not interfere directly in these disputes, as I have already said. The disputes are best settled by the masters and the workmen meeting together—men practically acquainted with the condition of the labor market in any trade or industry.

I know that in New Zealand the experiment has been tried, but there are very different opinions as to its success; therefore, again I venture to say, as I have already stated, having studied the question, and on two occasions having spoken with Mr. Seddon, the

Premier of New Zealand, when he was in England, I also had conversations with Mr. Reeves, who brought in those bills, and I still formed the same opinion.

Further than that, at a very large assembly of workmen invited by the London Chamber of Commerce, that matter was discussed, and by a very large majority, not only of employers, but representatives of trades unions, and they agreed that they did not want compulsory arbitration. I mention that to guide you, because I think an amendment is going to be moved. Now, I venture to press upon you with all the knowledge that we possess, after careful inquiry on the part of the London Chamber of Commerce, I venture to press upon you that you accept this modified resolution which is supported by London, Belleville and Vancouver.

The PRESIDENT: I will now call upon Mr. Bell-Irving of Vancouver.

Mr. H. BELL-IRVING (Vancouver Board of Trade): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I have been on my feet already this morning and so shall confine myself at this late stage of the proceeding to a few remarks. In seconding this resolution I shall merely content myself with remarking that we, in British Columbia, in common with other portions of Canada, have felt the disastrous result of labor strikes. The fact that Canadian labor organizations are sometimes affiliated with, and under the control of organizations in the United States, is in itself a menace which should be guarded against by legislation. We, in British Columbia, have recently been troubled by trade organizers coming from the United States to engineer the strikes on British soil. Where public utilities are concerned, such as the supply of water, light, power, transportation, mail or telephone services, it is more particularly necessary that steps should be taken to protect the public interests from any sudden interruption. It is right that labor unions should become financially responsible for any losses which may be caused by illegal acts—(hear, hear)—and the incorporation and registration of those unions will greatly assist towards this end. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution as proposed by the London Chamber of Commerce. (Applause.)

Mr. W. F. HATHEWAY (St. John, N.B., Board of Trade): My lord and gentlemen, this question is going to raise so much thought it seems to me in the minds of both manufacturers and business men of all kinds, that it demands some grave and serious consideration. I might say almost in the words of the gentleman who has just spoken, that some of these large industrial syndicates that were formed during the last three or four years, have to a large extent hurt the eastern section of Canada, and have been the cause of considerable damage. This will show you that there lies in this a great economic question, and is it wise for us now at this late stage to consider that question with the few members that we have here present? I would like if the gentlemen from London, Eng., and the gentleman representing the Belleville Chamber and his seconder would allow this question of economic importance to go over for some other Congress, or for some other trade committee; otherwise, I feel sorry, but I would have to oppose it in such a way as I can. Perhaps Mr. Boulton will feel that the matter is of such importance that it would be best not to discuss it now but to leave it over.

Mr. BOULTON: I think we have had a great deal of experience on the subject. Our Conciliation boards have done an enormous amount of good, all voluntary. In the mining and iron trades. They have prevented strikes over and over again. In the London Conciliation Board, I mention one among many others, it stopped a strike of 20,000 bakers in London. In the question of the very great strikes in 1889, the dockers' strike, we had masters who would not see the men.

Before our Conciliation Board we have now members of the Dockers' Union and the masters conferring together. The lion and the lamb are together, and the lamb is not inside the lion. (Laughter.)

Mr. HATHEWAY: Then I propose taking up your time, gentlemen, for about five or ten minutes, or, at least, whatever time the Chairman will allow me to discuss the question. In Canada and the United States during the last two years, there were the large coal syndicates and the large railway syndicates which controlled practically the whole of North America for about six months or a year. Now, the question of conciliation was tried, and proved satisfactory to a certain extent, but not to the large and complete extent which the public outside of the employer and outside of the laborer would like to see. The St. John Board of Trade and other Boards of Trade in Canada, and the Government of Canada have been considering particularly the compulsory arbitration problem, so much so that committees are now working on that question. I would like, therefore, that you, gentlemen, who are thinking on this question, not entirely and completely on one side, but on both sides, I would like that you feel that it would be wise to add to that resolution—change the last clause of it entirely, and put something like this:

"And, further, that the governments of the self-governing colonies be asked to consider the compulsory arbitration, the working of the law in New Zealand and in other countries and to see how it applies to the different self-governing colonies."

I know, Mr. Chairman, that France has lately adopted a law on that line. I know that Belgium also. . . .

Mr. BOULTON (interrupting): Allow me to interrupt you, sir. There is no compulsory arbitration in France at all. I have had communications from the Minister of Commerce there and I have been to Paris and I have studied it out, and there is no compulsory arbitration of any kind.

Mr. HATHEWAY: The last report was that a bill was put through one of the Houses of France, and that they expected that it would pass finally, and that that compulsory arbitration was similar to the one in Belgium.

Mr. BOULTON: I am an employer of labor in France, and have been for forty-five years, and you must take my word for it, there is no compulsory arbitration there.

Mr. HATHEWAY: That is the report I saw, and in Belgium they have compulsory arbitration.

Mr. BOULTON: I am also an employer of labor there, and there is no such thing.

Mr. HATHEWAY: Well, I will go on to New Zealand, and perhaps the gentleman will go on and tell me I am wrong there; but I thank the gentleman for having corrected me. I have definite reports. The information I got as regards France and Belgium was from the newspaper reports, giving details about Belgium.

But now, as to New Zealand. I have definite reports as to that with me here. Some say that it was successful, and some claim that it was unsuccessful. I have a letter which says that largely the wealth of New Zealand and the welfare of it and, particularly the great distribution of its supplies and of its labor progress has been the result of this very Act, that they have had since 1894, and which was codified, I believe, in 1900.

The last clause of the resolution, Mr. Chairman, does not take up both sides of the question. You will notice it says that Labor Unions should be registered, and also that Master Builders or Master Employers' Associations should be registered, but there is no clause to show that the greater syndicates which are controlling to a considerable extent the wealth and resources

of the country should be registered. I know that there are large Associations in different cities of Canada, that have their regular agreements; they have their laws and by-laws, their presidents and officers, and I do not see why we, as business men, should not be fair to both sides of this question. I use the word "fair," of course, in its limited sense, not that I imagine the gentlemen wish to be otherwise. I think we ought to be broad-minded enough to take both sides, and if it is right to have those unions registered—and I feel probably it is right—it is also right to have the larger unions of employers registered and the co-operative unions as well. I know that there are several of these syndicates that are not incorporated, and never have been incorporated. I refer particularly to the different syndicates now existing in Canada, which have no incorporation whatever.

If my time has expired, I must submit; but I feel that personally I shall have to vote against the resolution, unless the last clause is eliminated. I would be very glad if you would consider the amending of that so as to include compulsory arbitration instead of the last clause. With that view I beg to move that the last clause be omitted, and in place of that, the words be substituted:

"That we urge upon the different governments of the self-governing colonies to consider the question of compulsory arbitration, how it applies to the great labor questions in New Zealand, and how it applies to the different colonies of the British Empire." (Applause.)

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I think, sir, that you, perhaps, do not quite understand the resolution, because if I heard aright you said that most bodies of employers' associations and workmen's associations should be registered, did you not?

Mr. HATHEWAY: No, sir, I beg your pardon. I said that all bodies that endeavored to regulate wages or trade prices should be registered.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Well, sir, the object of the resolution is to do exactly what you desire, and it is so expressed, "and further, that Labor Unions and Masters Trades' Associations should in all cases be incorporated." I think that covers the very thing you are urging. As to compulsory arbitration, I must oppose that very strongly on the part of the London Chamber, and on behalf of my colleagues of the two Dominion Chambers.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Mr. Blaikie, of Edinburgh.

Mr. W. B. BLAIKIE (Edinburgh Chamber): I simply wish to say a word, gentlemen, confirming what Mr. Boulton has just said. I have had considerable experience on the Arbitration and Conciliation Board between the masters and workmen of the printing trades of Edinburgh, and I must say it is the most satisfactory way we have found to deal with these troubles, and since this Board was instituted, three or four years ago, it has absolutely obviated trade disputes, and since then there has not been the slightest sign of trouble in those particular trades.

At this stage of the proceedings Lord Brassey resumed the chair.

LORD BRASSEY: There being no seconder, the amendment falls.

Mr. C. H. LUGRIN (Victoria, B.C.): My Lord Brassey and Gentlemen: I sent up my name a few minutes ago, not that I wished to make a speech on the subject, but I simply desired to mention, for the information of those interested in this most important resolution, that the Canadian Government this last summer appointed a commission consisting of Chief Justice Hunter, of British Columbia, and the Reverend Doctor Rowe, to examine into the conditions of the recent strikes in the Province of British Columbia. I have had the privilege of examining the report of that

committee, and as one who has given a good deal of attention to this question, I wish to say that students of it cannot do better than to possess themselves of this report when it is finished, for it contains an immense amount of most valuable information. Just one word further, sir. That report shows conclusively on evidence that the strikes which affected British Columbia during last summer were part of a plot having its origin in the city of Denver, in the United States, to tie up the Canadian Pacific Railway and every coal mine and copper mine in Canada. The report, I say, contains information of immense value, and Canadians especially should study it to see if we cannot discover some way to free ourselves from the domination of labor organizations. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: As there are no further speakers, I will put the resolution. Those in favor will signify in the usual manner.

The resolution was declared carried by a commanding majority.

#### RAILWAY COMMUNICATION.

The CHAIRMAN: We now come to resolution No. 30, proposed by the Belleville Board of Trade, a most active corporation. Is there any gentleman here from the Belleville Board of Trade to move this resolution?

Mr. R. J. GRAMHAM (Belleville Board of Trade): At the present time I do not feel that I should take up the valuable time of this Congress in discussing the merits of this resolution at this late hour, but I will simply say on behalf of the Board of Trade of Belleville that I move the resolution as printed in the agenda.

Mr. C. H. LUGRIN (Victoria): I wish to second this motion.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further speakers who wish to be heard on this question. It is a most important question. If not, I shall put the resolution.

It is resolved "That the trans-continental railways of Canada—those existing and those projected—are, in the opinion of this Congress, for the general advantage, not merely of Canada, but of the Empire, and should receive Imperial support and consideration in any proposed plan of Imperial Federation, not merely on the ground that they furnish rapid and effective modes of transportation of troops and munitions of war for Imperial defence, but also on the ground that they form the chief land links in the chain of British Commerce, and are the inlet to and outlets from the granary of the Empire, and essential to the future food supply of Great Britain."

All those in favor of this resolution, please signify in the usual manner. Contrary.—I declare the motion lost by a large majority.

#### THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

The CHAIRMAN: The next is No. 71, The Alaskan Boundary Question, introduced by the Vancouver Board of Trade. The Alaskan Boundary is a question that has puzzled several people before now. Is there any gentleman here from Vancouver to introduce this resolution?

"Resolved that in the opinion of this Congress a final settlement of the Alaska Boundary question is very desirable in order to remove any possibility of friction, and to promote the development of the great territories on both sides of the line."

The CHAIRMAN (Lord Brassey) continued:—

As there is no one to propose this resolution on behalf of the Vancouver Board of Trade, we will proceed to the next one, No. 72, with regard to British interests in the Far East, which is as follows:

#### BRITISH INTERESTS IN THE EAST.

Resolved "That this Congress endorses the Leeds resolution adopted by the 4th Congress, viz.: 'That in view of the steps now being taken by the various countries of Europe to open out the interior of China to trade and commerce, it is the opinion of this Congress that the Government should endeavor by every means in its power to protect the interests of the British trader, to assist

him in obtaining concessions, and to afford him all reasonable securities against disturbance from the Chinese Government, or aggression from foreign powers.' And further suggests, 'That His Majesty's Government be urged to use every effort to secure facilities for assisting British traders in Manchuria, Corea, and Siberia, and to collect and make public all available information in furtherance of this object.'"

The following resolution is by the Winnipeg Board of Trade. I believe that they have consented to merge theirs with that of the Vancouver Board of Trade. Is any gentleman from Vancouver or Winnipeg present to move this resolution?

Mr. PEATE (Leeds Chamber): My Lord, I believe there is no member present from Vancouver or Winnipeg to move this resolution, and I hope that I may be permitted to do so.

Mr. LUGRIN (Victoria): I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any gentleman who wishes to speak to this resolution? If not, I will now put it to vote. All those in favor of the resolution, please signify in the usual manner.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

#### CANADIAN BANKRUPTCY LAW.

The CHAIRMAN: The next resolution is No. 74, introduced by the Vancouver Board of Trade, dealing with Canadian Bankruptcy law:

Resolved: "That this Congress strongly endorse the recommendation of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce by its special resolution of December, 1900, and January, 1902, regarding the desirability of a Dominion bankruptcy Law being enacted with the least possible delay."

GENERAL J. W. LAURIE: I want to say a word on this subject. This is a resolution that has a very serious bearing on the commerce between the Mother Country and the Dominion. Over and over again it has been brought up before the London Chamber of Commerce. Men who are trading with the Dominion are at their wit's end to know under which bankruptcy law they are working. They find preferential assignments are made after they have sent consignments of goods. For instance, Hull is very close to Ottawa, and a man in England is under the impression that a customer who has formerly been in Hull and has moved to Ottawa, is still under the same bankruptcy law, and this leads to endless confusion and mistakes, and great dissatisfaction on behalf of the English merchant. What they ask for is a common bankruptcy law throughout the Dominion. I was charged to bring this up on behalf of the London Chamber, but I am more than glad that it has been brought up by a Dominion Chamber, and therefore, I am only required to support it. It has come before the London Chamber twice, and each time we brought the matter through the proper channels before the Dominion Government, but so far nothing has been done, and the London Chamber have asked me to press the matter on this occasion upon you gentlemen in Canada, and ask you, as it is a matter to be done by the Dominion Government, to make what efforts you can in the direction of obtaining that general bankruptcy law of the whole Dominion, and so enable us in the Mother Country to know where we stand, and so benefit very much the trade relations between the Mother Country and the Dominion. Therefore, sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution brought forward by the Vancouver Board of Trade, and I do it, not merely for myself, but on behalf and with the authorization of the London Chamber of Commerce.

The CHAIRMAN: I now put the resolution, duly moved and seconded, by the Vancouver Board of Trade. All those in favor of the resolution, please signify their assent in the usual manner.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

## LONDON CLAUSE IN BILLS OF LADING.

The CHAIRMAN: We now come to resolution No. 75, proposed by the London Chamber of Commerce. It is as follows:

"That representation be made to the Canadian Steamship lines to discontinue the insertion of the London clause in bills of lading, on the ground that no clauses imposing charges on goods should be inserted in bills of lading other than freight."

Mr. PILLMAN (London Chamber): This resolution deals with a clause which has been very vexatious in its influence on London trade, because it is an imposition of one and ninepence per ton on all package goods that come into the port of London from Atlantic ports.

By charter, the port of London is entitled to free delivery of all package goods. No charge, therefore, is levied upon goods that come from Austria, from Hungary, from France and all other countries, because the London clause does not appear in the bill of lading. Nor could the charge be levied on goods coming from Canada if it were not that a clause is inserted in the bills of lading by shippers on this side whereby this charge is imposed. I may say no similar clause is inserted in any bill of lading carrying goods to any other port of the United Kingdom. I may say that as regards the flour trade from this side it is penalized to the extent of £25,000 per annum under this clause, which is a clause that violates the privileges safeguarded to the merchants of London by dock charter. The carriers, I maintain, are entitled to their freight, but they are not entitled to anything else. Every port in the Empire should be entitled to regulate its own charges and its own customs. This is a principle of self-government which we recognize in political matters, and which was so strongly emphasized last evening by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. We say that the principle of self-government which is our privilege under the British Constitution should extend to shipping, and that every port should have charge of its own customs. What would you, in Montreal, say, if London shippers put in a clause whereby charges were imposed higher than the charges existing in the port of Montreal, and levied by them? That is the position in which London stands to-day. I feel sure, from the spirit which animates this Congress, and the pertinacity of the Canadian, which I have learned to respect since I came to Montreal, that if we cannot get the Canadian lines to adopt this change, the Canadians will bring in a short bill in the Canadian Parliament to make short work of this clause. I think I have said enough to justify the acceptance of this resolution submitted to you by the London Chamber.

Mr. H. L. RICE (Dominion Millers' Association): Mr. Chairman: Engaged as we are in the export of flour, we find this London clause a great annoyance, and we endorse the action of the London Chamber of Commerce in bringing it before the Congress. I heartily support it.

GENERAL LAURIE: As we understand this clause, it is simply conceived with a view of avoiding an Act of Parliament. When the waters of the Thames were enclosed to form docks, free lighters were given to the owners of lighters who had used the borders. The London Chamber of Commerce most strongly objects to the clause because they think it handicaps the trade between London and Canada and the other colonies.

Mr. WARD LAYLE (London): We very much object to have a charge we did not contemplate forced upon us. When we ship goods we know we have to pay the freight and insurance, but under this clause we are saddled with a third charge of which we know nothing. I support the resolution.

Mr. H. H. HUSEY (London Home and Foreign Produce Exchange): I wish to object to this charge on

behalf of the produce trade. In a letter which they wrote on the subject they said, "A large volume of trade is diverted in this way beyond question, the reason being in the delay of delivery from the docks which the charge has failed to improve." Therefore, I must cordially endorse this resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen: I will now put the resolution to you. It is "that representation be made to the Canadian Steamship lines to discontinue the insertion of the London clause in bills of lading, on the ground that no clauses imposing charges on goods should be inserted in bills of lading other than for freight." Shall the resolution be adopted? (Hear, hear.) I declare the resolution carried unanimously.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

## TO GIVE EFFECT TO RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONGRESS.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have completed our programme, and I call upon Mr. Boulton to move a resolution which is necessary after our action.

Mr. S. B. BOULTON (London): My Lord and Gentlemen: The resolution I have to propose is necessitated by the work of the Congress, and is usually passed at the conclusion of each Congress. I propose:

"That the London committee of organisation be requested and authorized to take such steps as they may deem advisable to carry out the views expressed by the resolutions of this Congress."

LORD BRASSEY: I will now call upon Mr. Bell-Irving, of Vancouver, to second the resolution.

Mr. BELL-IRVING (Vancouver Board): I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution. Without such a resolution the work we have done here would be incomplete. I am sure the London Chamber of Commerce may count upon the cordial co-operation of all the other Chambers throughout the Empire.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

## VOTE OF THANKS.

LORD BRASSEY: It is now my pleasant duty at the close of our proceedings, which will be followed as you all know by those interesting journeys, it is my duty and pleasure to move a vote of thanks to those organizations and persons who have so greatly aided in making this Congress a success in every detail. I move:

"That our most cordial thanks be tendered to Mr. A. J. Hodgson, President of the Montreal Board of Trade; to Mr. Geo. E. Drummond, Vice-President; to Mr. Herbert B. Ames, to Mr. Geo. Hadrill, the Secretary; to Mr. Cook, his assistant, and to the members of the Board collectively, to La Chambre de Commerce du district de Montréal, and to all those who have taken such an active part in making the arrangements for us."

I beg to move a most cordial vote of thanks to those whom I have named.

Mr. E. J. GILLESPIE (London Chamber of Commerce): It affords me very great pleasure to second the resolution. The manner in which we have been received, the cordial spirit in which we have been met, and the readiness which the Canadian delegates have shown to meet our London ideas, will, I am sure, long linger in our memory.

Mr. S. B. BOULTON (London Chamber): I cannot leave this wonderfully successful Congress without expressing my sincere personal obligation to all those members with whom I have come in contact, and who have shown to myself and my brother colleagues such abounding hospitality. Further, on this, the second visit of my life to Canada, I cannot help expressing my extreme delight at seeing the progress made by your great and beautiful city on the St. Lawrence. It is assuredly destined to become a great emporium of the world's commerce such as we, twenty years ago



could hardly have realized to be the case. I will close in the words of one of your own citizens:—

"Sprung of the forest and chevalier,  
"And with the scarlet tunic wed,  
"Mount Royal's crown upon thy head,  
"And past thy footstool broad and clear,  
"St. Lawrence sweeping to the sea,  
"Reign on majestic Ville Marie."

(Applause.)

**LORD BRASSEY:** The representative of Liverpool desires to say a word on behalf of the Liverpool Chamber and of the other local Chambers.

**Mr. C. P. LANCASTER** (Liverpool Chamber): I desire to express my warm appreciation of the conduct of these meetings on the part of the Montreal Board of Trade and the Committee of Arrangements. We owe them, and I am sure I speak for us all, we owe them deep and cordial thanks for the work which they have done. There is one name which might have been fittingly mentioned here—I refer to Mr. McFee, the former president of the Montreal Board of Trade, and to the fact that the foundation for the assembling of this Congress was laid during his year of office as president of the Montreal Board of Trade. (Applause.) In England the burden of making arrangements for this meeting has fallen largely upon the London Chambers, and the arrangements they have made have been warmly and enthusiastically endorsed by all the provincial Chambers of Great Britain.

**LORD BRASSEY:** I feel sure that these votes of thanks will be carried by acclamation. The sentiments which they express are shared by all of us. I wish now to add to the list of those to whom our thanks are tendered, the Canadian Government, which has been liberal in its support, the Boards of Trade of the Dominion of Canada, and the railway companies, which have arranged tours through Canada which will commence to-morrow.

**Mr. J. E. DeWOLF** (President, Halifax Board of Trade): **Mr. Chairman:** If you will allow me a moment before the resolution is put, I wish to say a word on behalf of delegates from Canadian Boards of Trade outside of Montreal. I am sure I speak for them all in tendering to the Montreal Board of Trade an expression of our warmest appreciation for the arrangements made and for the manner in which these proceedings have been conducted.

The resolution was then carried by acclamation.

#### A MESSAGE TO THE KING.

It was then moved by Mr. Cockshutt, and seconded by General Laurie:

"That the delegates respectfully tender to His Majesty the King the assurance of their loyalty to His Throne and Person, and their earnest desire to uphold and strengthen the unity of the British Empire by every practicable means."

It was decided that the message should be at once transmitted by cable.

**GENERAL LAURIE:** It was most fitting that this should be moved by a Canadian, but I think, as you say, sir, it would not be complete if the other parts of the Empire were not permitted to join in. We have no sectional feeling among us. If we did come thinking we might have to fight for our own interests one against another, that has been merged, and it has been shown we want to develop the commerce of the Empire on friendly and brotherly lines. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, in one sense, there was no need in selecting the representatives of the different sections to speak on this. I desire, sir, on behalf of the—I was going to say the Outer Empire because, for the moment Canada is the home, and England is the Outer Empire—but speaking for all parts of the Empire, if I may say so, I beg to second the resolution.

The resolution was carried with great enthusiasm.

**THE PRESIDENT:** We should signify the carrying of this resolution in the usual way, by singing "God Save the King."

The National Anthem was then sung.

#### THANKS TO LORD BRASSEY.

**Mr. ALEXANDER McFEE** (Montreal Board of Trade), spoke as follows: I move that the Chair be taken by Mr. Bonlton. I appreciate the kind words expressed here to-day in reference to myself. The part I took in regard to the convening of this Congress was very very small indeed. ("No, no.") We are indebted to Lord Stratheona—(applause)—for this gathering, in this, the metropolitan city of Canada. During my visit to the Mother Country last year, while negotiations were carried on in regard to this gathering, it was the counsel and encouragement that the Montreal Board of Trade received from Lord Stratheona which led to the fulfilment of what we are now able to look back to. I rise, however, to perform a very pleasing duty indeed, and that is to move a vote of thanks to Lord Brassey. (Applause.) He has filled the chair of this Congress during the last four days, and I feel unable to do justice to this resolution, but I cannot allow the opportunity to pass of expressing the deep hold that we, as Canadians, feel he has, on this country. We can see in the Grand Trunk Victoria Bridge a monument before us every day, of what was done and accomplished by one of whom I am sure Lord Brassey is a worthy successor. Canadians will always have before them something to remind them that Lord Brassey has very close connection with this country, and it is very fitting he should have presided over this Congress, the first which has met outside the city of London. I am sure we do not realize at what sacrifice he has come here to help us in our deliberations, but all those who know him feel he is prepared to make any sacrifice that may be necessary to consolidate the immense Empire of which we all form a part. Successful as have been the deliberations of the Congress, they have been largely guided by the wise and judicious manner in which Lord Brassey has presided over them, and I am quite sure I express the sentiment of all the delegates when I say, we owe him a deep sense of gratitude for all he has done for us. I have, therefore, much pleasure in moving that we extend a very cordial vote of thanks to him for having so ably presided over the deliberations of this Congress.

**Mr. C. H. WATERBURY** (Brantford Board of Trade): I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution so ably moved by Mr. McFee, that we tender to Lord Brassey a vote of thanks for the very able, impartial, and happy manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Congress. The Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire has done Canada the honor of visiting Montreal and deliberating here on the great questions that are involved in the commerce of the world, and benefits will arise, no doubt, from the councils which have been held here this week. Mr. McFee has so ably expressed the feelings of all who have been gathered here that it is unnecessary to take up any more of your time, except to say again it gives me the greatest pleasure to second this resolution.

**THE ACTING CHAIRMAN:** It is with very peculiar feelings of gratification that I have the honor to submit this resolution to you. I have known Lord Brassey some years, and I am glad to say I know his son, who is following in the footsteps of two such distinguished men as the father and grandfather. In the old times the Vikings in crossing to new lands in their long ships, entered upon noble enterprises, but no enterprise of any Viking had, I think, so noble an object or aim as that on which Lord Brassey has crossed the seas in the Sunbeam. (Applause.) Nothing could be more noble than to attempt in every

possible way to combine those different branches of this great Empire.

I will not take up your time any longer, but with cordial satisfaction I will put to you the vote of thanks to Lord Brassey for the services he has performed in the course of this very eventful Congress. By acclamation, gentlemen.

The vote of thanks was carried amid prolonged applause, and the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

**LORD BRASSEY:** Mr. Boulton and Gentlemen: I have discovered during the course of my experience—in these last happy days spent in Montreal, that Canada—this noble Dominion—has two anthems, that is, for the greatest of the land, the National Anthem, but also, for those who choose to take it personally there is a personal anthem, and I am deeply touched by the use of that stirring song on my behalf. (Laughter.)

I cannot say more than I said last night—or, perhaps, it was in the early hours of this morning—at our banquet. I feel not only most grateful to yourselves, but I may say thankful for the providential ordering which evidently must be one of the last particular acts of my public life. (Cries of "No, no,"), one so grateful to myself and which is, I trust, even of some value to the Empire. Proud to preside over you, I am grateful for your warm and cordial support. Aye, and thanks to you, for I will ever remember this gratifying expression of your appreciation, and I once more warmly thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Gentlemen, I cannot sit down without expressing to yourself reciprocally, my thanks, for how could I have succeeded in the Chair if I had not your constant and loyal and unvarying support? (Hear, hear.) It is the intelligence and the high public purpose of every member of this Congress which has made it the success that it has been. The Chairman is but a subordinate in these achievements. It is to yourselves that the main credit is due. I can only say that in justice to yourselves.

#### THANKS TO LORD STRATHCONA.

**LORD BRASSEY (continuing):** Well now, gentlemen, it is impossible to exhaust the subject of my gratitude to this Congress, but there is yet one name which, perhaps, has not been mentioned in the earlier votes of thanks because of the transcendental claim which it represents. I refer—and you will, I am sure, gentlemen, arrive at the same conclusion, that I refer to Lord Strathcona—(cheers)—a great citizen, a most eminent citizen, a true Empire-builder in the very loftiest sense. You know what a splendid career he has had in the Dominion, and you know in how large a spirit he has made use of the resources with which Providence has blessed him, for the benefit of the Dominion, and now he is doing you the greatest service which it is in his power to render to the Dominion by representing in a distinguished and able way, the Dominion of Canada at the metropolis of the whole Empire.

It was a great act of public duty on the part of Lord Strathcona, aye, and I shall mention the name of Lady Strathcona also—(applause)—to cross the ocean (no mean undertaking for the youngest of us), to cross the ocean in order that they might, by all that they have done—and you know how much they have done—to secure the full success of this Congress. We could not separate without expressing to Lord Strathcona and to Lady Strathcona our most cordial thanks for the noble support which they have given to this meeting of the Congress. That constitutes one more claim to the already mighty list of claims which Lord and Lady Strathcona have upon the gratitude of the people of the Dominion, aye, and upon the people of the

whole Empire. I, therefore, beg to move a vote of cordial thanks to Lord Strathcona and to Lady Strathcona for the great services which they have rendered to this meeting of the Congress.

**Mr. E. J. GILLESPIE (London Chamber):** Mr. President and Gentlemen: It is my pride and my privilege to second this vote of thanks, and I do so not in any ordinary spirit of satisfaction, because I feel sure that I can speak with the most sincere feelings as to the kindness that I have personally received in the last two or three days during my stay here, from Lord Strathcona. His kindly help was rendered to us all in order to bring about that happy conclusion which we have arrived at in the momentous debate which brought us these thousands of miles away from home. I am sure, and I can assure you that if it had not been for his ready sympathy, I hardly know how we would have come to such a solution, but the magic of his power, and name, and personality, was enough to cement us together and settle all our difficulties, so I can only say that with the sincerest and greatest gratitude do I second the vote of thanks given by Lord Strathcona.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Gentlemen: Our thanks to Lord Strathcona by acclamation.

This vote was carried amid great cheering.

**LORD BRASSEY:** There is another, and this is a very effective form of appreciation—the cheers—Before we leave the room I am requested by Mr. Hodgson to give him an opportunity of saying a few words.

**Mr. A. J. HODGSON (President, Montreal Board of Trade):** My Lord and Gentlemen: I cannot too deeply express my regret that I have been unfortunately out of the room when you were good enough, as to move in those eloquent words a vote of thanks to myself and colleagues of the Montreal Board of Trade, as well as the Canadian Committee of Arrangement, the Chambre de Commerce, the Canadian Government and the Railway Companies. I can assure you that I had hoped, that I had arrangements to be in the room in time, but there were matters to be attended to in connection with our reception this afternoon, which, unfortunately, occupied me at that time. I am sure that your leniency, which you have shown to such an extent, will accept my apology for being absent at the time.

I can only assure you, my Lord, that what the Montreal Board of Trade has been able to do, and I speak for myself personally, that what I have been able to do has been exceedingly light, because of the valuable assistance we have had from our colleagues, not only of our own Board of the Chamber of Commerce of Montreal, but from the Committee of the Board of Trade, and I am sure, my Lord, you will allow me publicly now to express the warm appreciation we feel of the way this staff has worked. They have worked night and day, and it has been a labor of love. I can only assure you, my Lord, that I cannot find words sufficiently eloquent to express our warm appreciation of the way in which you have borne with all our deficiencies. May I be permitted, my Lord, on this occasion, as President of the Montreal Board to ask that this meeting, do place on record the warm appreciation of the services rendered in convening this meeting by the London Organization Committee. (Hear, hear.) They have been working at this far better than we have in Canada, and I would like to couple with this, my Lord, the name of the Chairman. Mr. Gillespie, and also the name of our able secretary. Mr. Kenric B. Murray. (Hear, hear.) I do not know, my Lord, if all the delegates are aware of how hard Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Murray had to work, not only in connection with the organization of this meeting, but during its progress, in trying to bring about what might

by and by be the solution of the great question of the fiscal policy. I know Mr. Gillespie has worked hard and taken an active interest in everything whilst our meetings were going on here, and I shall never forget the kindness he has extended to me and the consideration we have received from all hands. I am sure, in moving this resolution, that we place on record our warm appreciation of the services of the London Organization Committee, coupling with that the name of Mr. Gillespie and our Secretary, Mr. Murray, I shall be expressing the sentiments of all here. (Loud applause.)

Mr. POLLOCK (Paris): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I rise on this occasion to second the vote of thanks to the London Committee, and to my friend, Mr. Gillespie, and my most intimate friend, Mr. Murray. Mr. Gillespie, I know, has taken charge of this matter, but we must acknowledge that a great deal of the hard work has fallen on Mr. Murray, and he deserves a vote of thanks for the very happy manner in which these proceedings have been conducted. I must tell you that I have known Mr. Murray for over thirty years. I met him in connection with the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, of which he was one of the founders, and, therefore, he was well trained, I believe, to take up this work of the organization of the Chambers of Commerce. I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution in favor of these gentlemen who have done such good work, and who deserve at our hands the credit which is due to them.

Mr. MASSON (Montreal): I am taking upon myself jointly with Mr. Pollock, the duty of seconding the resolution which has been proposed, and I am glad to be in a position to thank Lord Brassey for his kind words to us for the work which has been performed by our Chamber, and I hope this Congress will be followed by similar meetings outside the City of London. I think the name of General Laurie should be put forward as one of the able Chairmen who have honored the Chair, and I have every reason to believe that this Congress will join with me in a vote of thanks to General Laurie. (Loud applause.)

Mr. O. E. BODINGTON (President, British Chamber of Commerce of Paris): My Lord and Gentlemen: I was given instruction from my Chamber as to my action upon the resolution with regard to Imperial trade, and I felt myself bound by these instructions. I am now free from these instructions, and I feel bound to say that the compromise arrived at was an extremely skillful one, I might say a triumph of tact and diplomacy, in which Mr. Gillespie had a great share. It was my pleasure to cross the ocean with Mr. Gillespie, and there I learned to admire his extreme tact and courtesy. As I was necessarily opposed to him on the question of trade relations, I take this opportunity of adding my voice to the general tribute to his ability and tact. (Loud applause.)

Mr. HOGG (North Shields): My Lord: A resolution has been moved from the Hall which I now take great pleasure in seconding. I was not aware that it was going to be moved, but I am exceedingly pleased that it was. I am sure that you will all join in an expression of thanks to General Laurie, who on one or two occasions came to our rescue and occupied the Chair, and did it in a very able and fair manner. It was said in the closing years of the reign of our most beloved Queen, I remember there was a conundrum put forward occasionally by those Christy minstrels like this—they used to say, "How was it that the glorious reign of our Majesty was the longest on record, and the answer was that it had 'reigned' for sixty years, and the sun (son) had no chance to shine. Well, sir, Lord Brassey has reigned for four days, but he has been occasionally absent and has given Gen. Laurie a chance to shine, and I think he has shone with a luminosity particularly his own. On those occasions on which he has been in the Chair, I am sure we have all admired the skill and the firmness which he has displayed, and the ability with which he has directed the proceedings from the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: I put this resolution to the Congress, hoping that it will be carried by acclamation.

The resolution was carried amid loud applause.

Mr. GILLESPIE (London, Eng.): Who was greeted most enthusiastically, said: Gentlemen, I beg to thank you very much on behalf of myself and Mr. Murray for your kind expressions. I feel sure that without Mr. Murray we should not have got along at all. No one knows the enormous amount of work which Mr. Murray has had both in London and here in connection with the various arrangements. (Hear, hear.) I sincerely thank you for the kind words to myself.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Murray—let us have a few words from Mr. Murray.

Mr. KENRIC MURRAY: My Lord and Gentlemen: I am extremely obliged by the kindness and extreme cordiality with which you have been good enough to pass this vote of thanks. May I be allowed to say that without the assistance of Mr. Hadrill, and his active assistant, Mr. J. Stanley Cook, it would have been quite impossible for me to get through my work. Mr. Hadrill has devoted himself, not merely during the time we were here, but for the past weeks and months, in making preparations for this Congress. I cannot sufficiently emphasize his share of the work that has been done. I am exceedingly obliged by the cordiality with which you have passed this resolution in which my name was mentioned.

This concluded the proceedings of the Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

## THE BANQUET.

The Banquet tendered to the delegates to the Congress by the Montreal Board of Trade, was held on the evening of Thursday, August 20th, 1903, in the Windsor Hotel.

About the board were the representatives of the Motherland, of far away Australia, of Tasmania and of New Zealand, of Ceylon, of the great Indian Empire, of the Colonies of the Cape and Natal, of the West Indies, the Transvaal and the Orange River Colonies.

These representatives sat down with the merchant princes of Canada.

The decorations of the menu card and those of the hall were appropriate to the occasion. In the spacious dining room, the British flag was everywhere in evidence. It hung in festoons all about the room, surmounted by the Maple Leaf, and arranged in trophies with the arms of the different provinces of the Dominion. The several British Colonies and Dependencies formed the centres of these trophies.

The escutcheon of Britain occupied a place of honor over the seat of the Chairman, as the centre of one trophy, under which hung the arms of Canada, on a blue ground. The former was also displayed at either entrance, surmounted by a huge crown, and in turn surmounting drapery conveying welcome to the guests. Figures of the goddess of trade and commerce decorated the walls on either side.

The menu card contained on the cover between the British and Canadian ensigns, a map of the globe, showing a large proportion of its surface in red, from the tiny spots which indicated the British Isles to the big splashes that pointed out Canada and Australia. Underneath, in a semi-circle, were shown the arms of all the Colonies and Dependencies, with the arms of the Montreal Board of Trade in the lower right hand corner.

At the upper end of the hall, in the gallery, sat a number of ladies in charming costumes.

His Excellency the Earl of Minto was escorted to the Windsor for the opening of the banquet by a guard of honor, consisting of one hundred men from the Royal Scots, headed by the regimental brass and pipe bands.

Quite a number of ladies who accompanied the delegates from beyond the seas, together with the ladies from the families of the Canadian delegates, were in the parlours, which seemed to be the scene of an informal reception.

The Chairman, with His Excellency and the guests of honor entered the banquet hall to the strains of the National Anthem.

Mr. Arthur J. Hodgson, president of the Montreal Board of Trade, presided.

To the right of the Chairman sat: His Excellency the Rt. Honorable the Earl of Minto, Governor-General of Canada; The Rt. Honorable Lord Brassey, K.C.B., President of the Congress; The Rt. Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Prime Minister of Canada; E. J. Gillespie, Esq., Chairman of the Council, London; The Marquis of Graham; S. B. Boulton, Esq., of London; The Honorable Raymond Prefontaine, K.C., Minister of Marine and Fisheries for Canada; Lieut.-General Laurie, London; W. F. Cockshutt, Esq., Brantford,

Ontario; The Honorable T. A. Brassey; Sir Melbourne Tait, Acting Chief Justice of the Province of Quebec; Charles Lancaster, Esq., of Liverpool; The Honorable Robert Mackay, Senator, Chairman of the Montreal Harbour Commissioners; W. Statham, Esq., of London; Captain Grahame, A.D.C. to the Governor-General; Arthur G. Sladen, Esq., Private Secretary to the Governor-General; John Patterson, Esq., of Glasgow; J. S. de Wolf, Esq., of Halifax, Nova Scotia; John Mardon, Esq., of Bristol; George R. Crowe, Esq., of Winnipeg; John R. Reid, Esq., of Ottawa; Isaac Beckett, Esq., of Dublin; J. H. Wurtzburg, Esq., J.P., of Leeds; W. M. Jarvis, Esq., of St. John, New Brunswick; James Davidson, Esq., Treasurer of the Montreal Board of Trade.

To the left of the Chairman sat: The Rt. Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, Honorary President of the Congress; Major-General the Rt. Honorable the Earl of Dundonald, Commanding the Canadian Militia; Sir William Holland, M.P., Manchester; James Cochrane, Esq., Mayor of Montreal; Sir Edward Buck, Cawnpore; The Honorable Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture of Canada; J. S. Randles, Esq., British Iron Trade Association, London; Sir Sandford Fleming; Joseph Walton, Esq., M.P., Associated Chambers of Commerce; Honorable Richard Turner, Quebec; Charles Charlton, Esq., London; R. L. Borden, Esq., K.C., M.P., Leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the Dominion Parliament; George E. Drummond, Esq., First Vice-President Montreal Board of Trade; Amos Crabtree, Esq., Bradford; D. Masson, Esq., President La Chambre de Commerce de Montreal; James Cormack, Esq., Edinburgh; W. T. Anderson, Esq., Kimberley, S.A.; Walter H. Wilson, Esq., Belfast; Kenric B. Murray, Esq., Secretary of the Congress; Hon. M. L. Moss, Freemantle, Australia; W. F. Beardshaw, Esq., Sheffield; Ebenezer Parkes, Esq., M.P., Birmingham; Cyrus W. Birge, Esq., Hamilton, Ontario; F. W. Morse, Esq., 3rd Vice-President Grand Trunk Ry. Co. of Canada; W. I. Gear, Esq., 2nd Vice-President Montreal Board of Trade.

The Vice-Chairs at the Banquet were occupied by: Hugh A. Allan, Esq.; Charles Meredith, Esq.; R. Ironside, Esq.; E. F. Hebden, Esq.; R. M. Ballantyne, Esq.; James Carruthers, Esq.; James Thom, Esq.; Herbert A. Ames, Esq.; A. W. D. Howell, Esq.; Geo. B. Fraser, Esq.; Hugh Watson, Esq.

Enthusiasm was aroused in the dining hall, when a few minutes after the beginning of the Banquet, the sound of the pipes was heard approaching from the drawing-room, and the pipe band of the Royal Scots entered the hall, and marched through playing Scotch airs, followed by the Governor-General's Guard of Honor.

The guests rose to their feet and cheered again and again as the brawny kilted lads marched by, giving the balm of the visitors their first sight of what Canada could produce in the way of citizen soldiery.

When the viands had been disposed of, the trumpeter of the Scots called the gathering to order, as the Chairman gave the toast of "His Majesty the King," which was received with loyal enthusiasm. The National Anthem was sung with a will.

The toast to "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Members of the Royal Family," was similarly honored.



### THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The CHAIRMAN: Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: The next toast I have to propose is one that always has a very warm place in the hearts of every Canadian, and not only in the hearts of every Canadian, but in the hearts of every loyal Britisher. His Excellency, ever since he has come to Canada, has always taken the most lively interest in everything affecting the commerce and other questions of national importance concerning Canada—(hear, hear)—and when it was my privilege to write to His Excellency asking him to favor us with his presence to-night, it was with the usual warm-hearted reception that he acceded to our request. (Applause.) I am sure that it needs no words of mine to commend such a toast this evening. Canada has always been favored with the best of Governors-General, but, I venture to say, without lacking for a moment in respect, that we, in Canada, feel that we have one of the very best that Canada has ever been favored with. My Lords and Gentlemen, I give you the toast of the Governor-General.

The toast was received with cheers and enthusiasm.

### HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada (Rt. Hon. the Earl of Minto) on rising to respond was received with enthusiastic cheers.

HIS EXCELLENCY said: Mr. Chairman, my Lords and Gentlemen: The heartiness with which you have received the toast of my health to-night, I assure you I most deeply appreciate. I feel proud, indeed, at being present at this great gathering to-night as the Governor-General of Canada, the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward the Seventh. I feel, too, that the occasion is no ordinary one, the assembly of the first Chambers of Commerce of the Empire held outside of the United Kingdom. I hope, gentlemen, that I may be allowed on behalf of this great Dominion, to welcome you to Montreal, its business centre, a city full of the history of medieval commerce—the key 250 years ago, as it is now, to the upper waters of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa—the advance post of the Kings of France for the propagation of Christianity and the fur trade; now the commercial capital of Canada, eager to welcome and to honor the commercial representatives of a world-wide Empire. (Cheers.)

You have come to us, gentlemen, in prosperous times—Canada is “booming”—perhaps, to many of you, or at any rate, to some of you, this may be your first visit to British North America, and even though you may have followed the story of this land of promise, I doubt if it can have been possible to completely realize from across the seas the steadily growing strength of the Dominion since Confederation, or the leaps and bounds of the prosperity of the last few years. (Applause.) But it has been my lot to have seen somewhat more of Canada than my predecessors—as an eye-witness I can tell you something of her marvellous growth. It is almost exactly twenty years ago since I set foot at Quebec on Lord Lansdowne's staff, in advance of many revolutionizing influences—before the days of bicycles, electric cars or automobiles—when in the brilliant sunshine of the winter months the streets were gay; then now, with picturesque sleighs, when blanket coats and moccasins still held their own, even in the Capital; when the old Red River cart was still to be seen in the west, and a solitary buffalo might still be heard of on the plains. I had crossed the Rocky Mountains before the completion of the railway, and before the destruction of those magnificent forests, I had camped along the “foot-hills” and ridden many hundred miles over the prairies. I had seen the last of the painted warriors on the war-path, and had heard, with my comrades of 1885, the last Indian war-whoop, before I came

back again to Canada as Governor-General to renew many old friendships and happy recollections. (Cheers.)

But, even after my few years of absence, I came back to a new world. (Cheers.) A great railway had united the east to the west. I found myself riding through the Rocky Mountains on a cow-catcher, or being prosaically conveyed over the foot-hills in a private car, till in sheer desperation I called for a horse and insisted on following my old friend, the trail—even though it might parallel a Government track! Canada was changed—civilization had made great strides; much of the charm and romance of a wild life were gone, but still the prairies were the same as I remembered them and the disused trails were still there, and, notwithstanding the great railway and all the advantages it gave, the development of the “North-west” seemed to have hung fire for a time. It scarcely filled up as rapidly as those who knew it, expected it would. Certainly there was the opening up of the mining district of the Kootenay, and later still, the rush to the Yukon, but the wheat-growing area of the North-west, though steadily growing in importance, seemed scarcely to have secured the recognition it deserved,—till three years ago, or, may I say at the outside, four summers ago, the scales seemed suddenly to have fallen from men's eyes, the exuberant harvests of Manitoba, and the Territories had won their reputation, the great “trek” from the Dakotas and the Western States began; the emigration offices of the Motherland were filled to overflowing—transportation and organization almost failed to meet the flood of immigration here, and it became more and more evident that under present conditions they would be quite incapable of handling the out-going production of this new land.

Gentlemen, this great development means something more than the mere recognition of Canada as the possessor of the greatest future granary of the world. (Hear, hear)—it is the introduction of a new factor into the history of the Dominion—it means the increasing political representation of the great agricultural interests of the west—it means a magnitude of agricultural production which is already influencing the economic considerations of the Empire. In that sense, I feel sure it has not escaped the attention of the Congress.

But the advance is not only in the North-west, agricultural wealth, mineral wealth, unlimited water power, the wealth of the forests, the wealth of the rivers and inland seas, is all surging to the front—pointing to a glorious future, but a future which must bring with it new and great responsibilities for the Dominion, and possibilities of momentous importance, not only to the Dominion, but to the Motherland from which she sprang. (Hear, hear.)

Your Congress, Lord Brassey, has assembled at a critical period in the history of the Empire. No more suitable moment could have been selected, and, in my opinion, no more fitting place of meeting than the great trading city of Montreal. We are on the eve possibly of a great upheaval not only of the fiscal conditions of the United Kingdom, but of the present system of inter-Imperial tariffs. We are committed to a struggle over opinions accepted long ago and now invested with a sanctity with which we may be told it is almost sacrilegious to interfere. So far we are only at the commencement of the fight, we have had nothing but affairs of outposts—the great moves of the campaign have not yet begun, and I cannot tell you, gentlemen, how much I think the discussions held at your Congress can do to clear the air, and to place before the public the practical views, and the conclusions of those who have followed a commercial career. All the more do I hope that the Canadian social surroundings with which delegates from across the sea have been brought into contact, together

with the published opinions of the Canadian representatives, may assist to make clearer to the people of the United Kingdom the feelings and aspirations of the people of Canada.

Mr. Chairman, the verdict as to the adoption of the principles of Free Trade or Protection, and the acceptance of the many consequences dependent upon either definition, must, in my humble opinion, rest largely upon the findings of experts submitted to the consideration of the population concerned. Even then, even with the best expert reports before us, we must expect a growth of public opinion rather than any immediate decision, and we must remember, too, in any hopes that we may form for the Imperial benefits to be derived from a great change of policy, that after all, "charity begins at home," and that no people will consent to risk, as it will be argued to them that they will risk, the home comforts of their kith and kin, unless they feel very sure of the step they are asked to take. No one hopes more sincerely than I do that that step may be made feasible and safe. (Applause.)

Now, gentlemen, in looking forward to this great coming discussion, there is one point which must appeal pre-eminently to a gathering such as this—the future relations between the Motherland and her Dependencies—the possibility, and in an Imperial sense, the necessity, I say it most strongly, for closer commercial relations in respect to an inter-change of trade or preferential conditions between the Old Country and her possessions beyond the seas—a problem surrounded by difficulties, domestic, Imperial and foreign, but on the solution of which I firmly believe the future of our Empire depends. We need something more than a sentimental connection with the Motherland. We want the link of common interests clearly defined. We want that link to be strong enough to enable us simultaneously to withstand outside opposition. But, gentlemen, I am no disbeliever in sentiment, I believe that the sentimental affection for the Motherland lies deep in the heart of every man of British descent. I believe as an Imperial asset we cannot overestimate the value of it. Yet one is told that one cannot do business on sentiment—I agree to that in the sense that no man with a head on his shoulders would make a sentimental bargain—but what leads up to the bargain? What initiates the wish to make the bargain? Does anyone mean to say that all this discussion on tariffs and inter-Imperial trade would ever have arisen without the wish to keep up old home connections? British sentiment is at the bottom of it all. Perhaps to the foreign world the value and the strength of that sentiment is more evident than it is to ourselves—I hope we shall never underrate it; that we admit that it cannot invalidate our capacity to deal with hard facts on business lines.

I am afraid, gentlemen, that at home there is not that widespread knowledge one could wish for, either of the geography and resources of the Dominion or of the feelings and conditions of its people—some times little value is attached to the sentiment I have alluded to; at others it is exaggerated into a blind manifestation of loyalty. Some people would appear scarcely to realize that the days of the old plantations are gone by. My opinion is that the days of colonies are gone by too. We have reached the days of young nations. I believe the strongest feeling in the Dominion is that of Canadian nationality. (Applause.) If I was a Canadian I should object to be called a colonist—I would be called a Canadian, but I would be an Imperial Canadian, and a very imperial one too. (Applause.) The people at home unacquainted with a frontier life, can hardly be expected to realize the hardships and struggles of the pioneers who created a

new country, or the pride of the descendants who have inherited it from them, who now claim it as their gift to the Empire, and who, I believe, with all their rising feeling of nationality, with all the independence of thought and action it brings with it, affectionately cherish the idea of an imperial unity and of a continuous share in the glorious history of the British race. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

I have already said we have a great problem before us, the solution of which must depend largely on the researches of experts, and on such well thought-out opinions as the delegates of such a Congress as is assembled here, can give to the public. I hope possibly that their discussions may not only have tended to suggest a commercial basis upon which the unity of the Empire may rest, but may have impressed upon the public the necessity for some system of common defence to insure its safety from attack.

I have only attempted to outline some of the main features affecting the present position as they appear to me. I have purposely avoided statistics and details and have only endeavored to speak broadly as to some of the conditions surrounding a great controversy, but there is yet an all-important aspect of the present position to which I cannot but draw your attention. No one who has watched the history of the United Kingdom and its possessions for the last few years, can have failed to note the growth of a great Imperial idea, the wish for a closer union between the Old Country and her Dependencies for sentimental reasons, for the sake of trade and prosperity, and for the sake of common defence. And certain striking events have accentuated this idea—the war in South Africa with its rush to arms throughout British possessions all over the world to the assistance of the Motherland—surely a direct enough answer to those who doubt the value of sentiment—Canada's further offer of preference to British imports, the recorded opinion of the Colonial Premiers at the Imperial Conference last year, and, lastly, but greatest of all, Mr. Chamberlain's visit to South Africa and the conclusions that visit has prompted him to offer to the British public.

For the first time a great Minister of the Crown found it possible to separate himself temporarily from the trammels of political routine, and to look for himself into the conditions of a distant Dependency—not only to consult its statesmen, but to rub shoulders with men of different races, with the speculator, the soldier and the leader of irregulars, and all those strange but spirited human elements which from time immemorial have formed the advanced guard of civilization—and he returned to tell his countrymen that on the distant veldt the all-absorbing questions of insular statesmanship, had seemed to him to dwindle in importance, and that the welfare and interests of the people at home were inseparably connected with those of their kinsmen beyond the seas. After Mr. Chamberlain's long and distinguished political career, his practical knowledge of business and of all the needs of the working classes, I ask you, is it probable that he would be led to jeopardize his life's work by a mere Imperial dream?

Gentlemen, it is impossible to foretell the issue of the coming struggle, but in my firm belief, we stand very near the parting of the ways—our opportunity is before us, it may never come again. What is to be our choice—a mighty empire, a brilliant constellation of nations, united in common interests, disseminating throughout the world the spirit of free institutions and liberal ideas, proud of a glorious history, and confident in the promises of its future—or, the gradual estrangement of that Empire's component parts and its ultimate disintegration. (Applause.)

This is not the time to sit down and fold one's hands, it is the time for those who believe in the future of our Empire to speak out. (Cheers.)

#### TOAST OF THE DELEGATES.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. J. Hodgson, President of the Montreal Board of Trade): Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: In rising to propose the next toast I assure you I feel it impossible to find words that will convey even in a small degree, to our distinguished visitors here to-night all we feel in regard to the great privilege we have in meeting so many distinguished commercial representatives from the Motherland and the other parts of the Empire, and I can only ask you to take the will for the deed, and accept our gratitude for the honor, the great honor, which the London Committee has conferred upon us by holding the fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire in Montreal. I can say without contradiction that never has there been such an important gathering in Montreal as has, during the last four days, met in the Windsor Hall. It is the first time they have met outside of London, and I echo Lord Strathcona's remark that we are proud the Dominion should have been selected for this new departure. (Hear, hear.) It seems to me, gentlemen, that the first meeting outside of London should well have been held in Montreal, for, I believe, that to Montreal belongs the honor of initiating this Congress, for I have seen a circular dated as far back as 1878, in which the Secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade, on behalf of the Dominion Board of Trade, writes suggesting to the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, the holding in London once a year, or as often as may be considered desirable, of a Congress of representatives of Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire, with the object of drawing closer the trade relations between the Motherland and the Colonies and Dependencies of the Empire. I congratulate the organizing committee in London on making this new departure, and I think the fact that they come to this gathering from all parts of the Empire, and the opportunity thus given for a full and free expression of opinion on matters benefiting the Empire cannot be over-estimated by the most optimistic minds. The holding of this Congress has been to result in closer union and that expansion of trade and commerce within the Empire we all desire so anxiously to see accomplished. One of the greatest characteristics of the Congress was its unanimous loyalty. It was a Congress assembled, as our President, Lord Brassey, so admirably expressed it, to bring together and consolidate by every practical means the noble Empire to which we belong—(hear, hear)—and surely the fact that that Congress was able to arrive at such a unanimous decision on two such important questions as those of Imperial defence and the fiscal policy should be a great object lesson to the whole world. (Hear, hear.) Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen, it would ill become me to abuse the privilege of the chair by anything approaching lengthy remarks to-night, but I cannot close without expressing what I think is the feeling of all here present, and that is the appreciation of the able manner in which Lord Brassey has presided over this gathering. (Hear, hear.) The sterling words of Lord Strathcona, followed by the eloquent address of Lord Brassey, will be long remembered by those who heard them. The toast I have now to propose, which I think you will all drink most heartily, is that to the delegates who have assembled here from every part of the grandest Empire on the face of the earth. I will couple with the toast the names of our Honorable President, Lord Strathcona, and also of our President, Lord Brassey, who have done so much to make the meetings the success they have proved to be. Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink to the

health of the delegates to the fifth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically.

#### LORD STRATHCONA'S REPLY.

The Right Honorable Baron Strathcona and Mount Royal, High Commissioner for the Dominion of Canada in London, and Honorary President of the Congress, was received on his rising with tumultuous applause. He began his speech, but the enthusiasm of the gathering broke forth in loud cheers. When quiet was restored, His Lordship spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: I rise, sir, at your command as honorary president, to respond to this toast, but my own personal feeling assuredly would be that my friend, and our friend, the president, Lord Brassey, should have been chosen to reply for the guests in the first instance. My own position has been as is represented by the word "honorary," only an honorary position. His has been a truly practical one, and we know, all of us, with what great ability he has guided the discussions of the Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire on this occasion. (Hear, hear.) It is only truth to say that on no former occasion has anyone of the great men, the statesmen who have acted in the same position, done more than he has done—(hear, hear)—and we feel under very great obligations to him for the way in which he has conducted the business of this great gathering. (Hear, hear.) Looking around on the number of delegates here this evening I feel that it is no easy matter to respond to the toast of the guests. I could wish that on this occasion I were a thought-reader and that, looking on the one side and on the other, I could find for myself exactly what each thought of the proceedings we have had before us. Unhappily, I have not that gift, but we can judge from what we have all heard day by day, for the four days during which this Congress has convened, and, as has been well said by His Excellency, as has been well said by your Chairman, there could be no mistake of one thing, that is, of the loyalty and devotion of each and all of these delegates for their Sovereign King, and to the Empire whose flag waves over the greater part of the civilized globe. (Cheering.)

Coming as they do from every portion of the Empire, and indeed from every part of the world, their opinion will have an influence and a great influence, on that most important discussion to which His Excellency has referred. His Excellency has told you that Canada is now booming. Well, I would like to say just one word in regard to this. In the eyes and in the ears of Canadians the boom at one time had a very unsavoury flavor. It was a word of ill omen. That was about the time that His Excellency came to Canada with that great statesman, Lord Lansdowne. But that was the time when there ought not to have been any such boom. There was nothing to justify it at that time. The North-west was only in its infancy then, and the boom was nothing but a wild gamble of speculation which did infinite injury to the North-west of Canada, and also to the other parts of this country. But we look rather to the manner in which Canada has surmounted these difficulties. You see her now in a changed position. You see her on the broad plain of prosperity on which she is now walking, leisurely, it may be, not altogether with leaps and bounds, but surely as well as leisurely. (Applause.) It is a prosperity which we feel assured is one that will continue. There will be fluctuations. There must be fluctuations. There are such in this country as in every other country, but Canada has within herself those resources which may be relied upon to sustain her at all times and enable her to tide over any little time of depression that may happen to her. I think that Canada is a country of which we who



know her, have reason to be truly proud. (Applause.) His Excellency has told you of his having come here some twenty odd years ago. I can point to a somewhat longer residence. (Hear, hear.) If I may be permitted a personal allusion, I think I can look back to having come to Canada some sixty-five years ago, and comparing the Canada of that time with the Canada of 1880 and more so, with that of 1903, there is indeed a vast difference. To me it appears as a dream looking back. It disposes me to rub my eyes sometimes and feel if I am really awake. Who could have thought fifty years ago of the transformation that has taken place? But I think that seeing what has been done in the past by the people of Canada, it is an earnest and a good one, too, that they will still be up and stirring and they will not be contented only with what they and their fathers have done, but that they themselves will still continue to do their utmost, and that they will still instill into the minds of their children and the children again of these that there is an inheritance which is theirs, and that it would be a humiliation to all of them not to do their utmost to sustain it, and to still press forward. (Applause.)

Even sixty years ago I was an optimist. Pessimism is not a good thing to live upon. You may go upon it for a while if you will, but for a country or a person, depend upon it you will make more out of anything by thinking good of it than by holding it in ill-favor. (Applause.) And that is how it will be with Canadians. But I feel that already I have said too much. I am departing, I am afraid, somewhat from the text laid down before me by our excellent Chairman. It is that I should be one of those to respond for the guests of the evening. I must say that I envy those guests who are going across the broad continent from here to the Pacific. Those who have seen it already will feel as His Excellency felt, and as he has described. There are these prairies extending for a thousand and upwards of a thousand miles to the west, and for three hundred miles and more from the International boundary line north. Then there are the mountains inspiring, at least in part, and the Selkirk mountains beautifully clothed with timber and that of vast size. Truly you will see a beautiful country there. I remember well when the last rail of the Pacific railroad was about to be laid, when the last spike was about to be driven, and I am glad that there is at least one other here who was there then, my friend, Sir Sandford Fleming. (Applause.) It was a dismal dreary day in the first week of November, but we got out into the open country, and presently it was one of the bright, pleasant, bracing days of the autumn-summer. There were some gentlemen standing on the platform and looking at all this new country. One of them touched me on the shoulder, and said he, "The cattle on a thousand hills." We soon got from the mountains to the prairie section again, where there are really thousands of cattle to be seen. That is one of the scenes to be remembered, and I say that I do envy those who are going to see it, but I am very glad indeed, that they are going to see all this that is so well worth seeing. They will come back, those who have not crossed Canada already, with a feeling that we Canadians may well be proud of the great Dominion, and they will come back also inspired with the feeling that this is a good country. We speak of fiscal matters. You will see that this is a good country in which to invest your money, much better than in foreign countries. (Applause.) Amongst our own people, amongst those who are in the highest and best sense of the word, Englishmen, I know that such is the feeling of our Premier here, the Right Honorable gentleman—(cheers)—and such is what he has endeavored to inspire in the minds and hearts of all in this great country; his own compatriots as well as others. And we feel that we have in the people of Canada a people who are devoted to the best interests of the Empire, and

that in this respect we yield to no other portion of the outlying part of the British Dominions. (Applause.) Those again who will go east will see much to admire in those beautiful provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and not least of all certainly, in the beautiful little island of Prince Edward. So that we see and we feel sure that it will be a time of enjoyment for all of them. And that they will feel that it is a good thing that the Chambers of Commerce this year have held their meeting not in the great metropolis of London, of which we are all assuredly very proud, but that they have met here, and have come to see us in Canada.

We have been welcomed—I am one of the guests here also—but I believe I am privileged to call myself a citizen of Montreal, and I will say that I take very great pride in it, and I look upon myself as such. (Applause.) His Excellency has told you that he would assuredly be glad to be regarded as a Canadian. We also are proud of being Canadians. But, while it is well, as in Great Britain that we should be Scotchmen and Englishmen and Irishmen and Welshmen, still we are not less proud all to consider ourselves as all Britons, all Englishmen. We may be and will be much attached to our native province. We call ourselves, I call myself, a Manitohan, because I have been so much and for so many years connected with that section, but yet we ought not to forget, and we do not desire to forget, that we are citizens of the whole Dominion. And further still, we look upon it that we are members of a great Empire. I feel I have said a great deal too much, and now I will thank you, sir, for having given me the opportunity of speaking on this occasion. (Cheers.)

#### LORD BRASSEY'S REPLY.

The RT. HONORABLE LORD BRASSEY, K.C.B.: Your Excellency, Mr. President, My Lords and Gentlemen: If at the end of four days of deliberation, I tell you that I feel somewhat in the condition of an extinct volcano, it will not surprise you, nor do I think it will fill you with very much regret, in view of the great expectation with which you are awaiting the speech from your Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier—(Hear, hear)—and other speakers. But, gentlemen, though my intellectual faculties are nearly exhausted—"no, no"—feeling is not altogether extinct, and I should be a man other than I am, if I did not feel proud, nay, thankful, that it should have been permitted to me, in the evening of my days, to be of some slender service, as I hope it may have been, to my country—(applause)—by presiding at the magnificent Congress which has been held in Montreal. My sense of the honor for myself, and my appreciation of the importance of the Congress, which is a much more important consideration, is greatly enhanced by the circumstance that we have amongst us this evening His Excellency, as representing the Crown, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues—(cheers)—the ministers by whose advice the Government of this great Dominion is so ably conducted. Well, gentlemen, what shall I say in the very briefest words in regard to the proceedings of the Congress? Well, gentlemen, it must be clear to you all that any man coming to this Congress from the Old Country must have been deeply gratified by the loyal tone and the strong imperial sentiments which have marked the utterances of every speaker—(cheers)—and the speeches have been not only gratifying, but helpful. They have informed us as to Canada's position. It has been made plain to us that in the consideration of the fiscal policy on the other side, we must not look for further remissions of duty upon British manufactures imported into this country, nor would it be statesmanlike to approach this subject in any sense in the way of a bargain. What must we do? If anything can be done, it must be done of our own free-will, and without imposing conditions. What has Canada asked us to



do? It has pointed to its great resources, as yet undeveloped, and asks the Old Country to do what it can, if it can do anything, to aid in their development. It is quite clear that any, even the slightest modification or change in the fiscal condition which has been maintained for half a century, and under which astonishing progress has been achieved, cannot lightly or without the deepest consideration, be entertained, and the problem we have to consider is, is it possible by putting on some taxes, by taking away other taxes, to maintain the revenues of the Old Country, and without adding to the cost of living, to do something for the further advantage of the Canadian Dominion. The problem bristles with difficulties—"hear, hear"—but I cannot pre-judge the decision which may be arrived at by either side in politics. We must all have profound faith in British patriotism and British common-sense—"hear, hear"—and I have faith in time. My faith is large, that in time it will be brought to some perfect end, and there, gentlemen, I leave, with a great sense of relief, the fiscal question. (Laughter.) And now, I have only this more to say, that we, the English visitors, must all share those feelings which, on their behalf, I will endeavor in the fewest words to express, feelings of the warmest gratitude to our fellow-Canadians for the warm welcome received. (Cheers.) Your Excellency and gentlemen, we have had a pleasant time, we have had a happy time. We have been making the warmest friends with Canada all the time, and it cannot but be that from meetings such as this, benefits of an enduring value will be obtained, which will tend to promote and strengthen the unity of the Empire. If such a result is attained, and I confidently believe it will be, nay, it has already been attained, I shall be proud to have been associated in any sense with this Congress. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier to propose the toast of the Empire.

#### SPEECH OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA—TOAST OF THE EMPIRE.

The RT. HONORABLE SIR WILFRID LAURIER, Prime Minister of Canada, who was received with great cheering, said: Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: The duty has been assigned to me, the pleasing and still more honorable duty of proposing the toast which is now on the programme, and which is certainly one of the most important of the evening. It will be my privilege and pleasure to ask you to raise your glasses to the toast of "The Empire." It will be my greater privilege and pleasure to couple with it the names of some gentlemen who have come here unknown to us, but who will be long remembered in Canada—Sir William Holland—"hear, hear"—from the United Kingdom; Hon. M. A. McRobert, from India; Hon. M. L. Moss, from Australia, and Mr. W. T. Anderson, from South Africa. As far as I am personally concerned, on this occasion, perhaps, I would better discharge the task devolving upon me if I simply asked you to take a glance around this hospitable board, at the sea of upturned faces, for it seems to me that in the assemblage here congregated there is a living evidence that the British Empire is not a mere conventional expression, but that it is a living entity. (Cheers.)

In these modern times a public banquet is an event of almost everyday occurrence; an occurrence so frequent that even one of this importance may be passed without any more attention than any ordinary happening in our daily life. Whenever a large number of men meet together to discuss for any purpose whatever—to discuss grave questions of business, or grave questions of politics, or grave questions of business and politics as has been done for the past few days, or to investigate complicated social problems, or to exchange

views on other topics; they seldom if ever separate without sitting at the same table in order as it were to give to their labors and to their deliberations the consecration which always attaches to hospitality offered and accepted. In this respect, this banquet is such an event as has often been seen within these walls. The wine is generous, the food is wholesome and the courtesy of the merchant princes of Montreal, our hosts this evening, is cordial, and warm, and hearty. (Applause.) I can testify that this is nothing new, for it has been my privilege many and many a time, to sit at this board, and upon other occasions as upon this occasion the cheer was excellent and the company still better; but in another respect this banquet is different from anything which this Hall has ever seen. In another respect this banquet is unique; in another respect this banquet is an event by itself, because around these tables are assembled not only men from Canada, but men from all parts of the world, men from the distant continents of the Pacific ocean, men from the tropical islands of the Atlantic, men from India, men from Ceylon, men from Africa—Africa for generations and centuries the land of bondage, now, emerging from her baptism of fire, with, as I hope, and as we all hope here; with the full hopes of the blessings of British equality; and last, though not least, men from the small British Isles, whose career has been the wonder of modern history, and whose achievement—the supreme achievement has been well expressed in these words of John Bright, "England the mother of living nations." The men who came here from all parts of the earth did not meet as strangers, but they meet as brothers. (Applause.) They found in meeting that there was between them a common bond of union. They all bear the same allegiance to the same sovereign, and one and all we are here citizens of the British Empire. (Cheers.)

The men who came here from far and from near had a common object, and this common object superior to all others was, if possible, to find means—to devise ways to promote trade between the component parts of the British Empire. Those of us who have not had the privilege of being present or, of taking part in the discussions during the last four days, have nevertheless followed them with great attention, and we read in the newspapers, the reports of what has taken place, and from those reports we have to conclude that the task which was before you was not altogether plain sailing. There were difficulties to overcome. It was difficult to find a common principle which could be applied and adopted for the end in view, and I am not sure if, after your deliberations, you can say that such a principle has yet been found and formulated. (Laughter.) Perhaps, if we cast a glance over the history of the development of the British Empire, we may possibly find the key—a key, at all events, which may help in solving that problem. England is not the only land which has extended far and wide her domain beyond her territory, but England is the only country which has boldly thrown herself upon the devotion and allegiance of her subjects in distant lands. (Applause.) The empire of Alexander crumbled as soon as the hand which reared it had disappeared. The empire of Charlemagne did not survive his own gigantic personality. Napoleon was himself a witness to the destruction of the fabric which he had attempted to raise up. Rome established her empire by force of arms, and maintained it by concentration until it gave way under that centralized system. England has established her Empire not so much by war as by commerce and by colonization. She has found a support hitherto unsuspected. She has found a support for her Empire simply by loosening the legislative and administrative ties, and with her own hands emancipating and bringing to life and freedom nation after nation. (Applause.) In this, gentlemen, she was su-

premely wise. She realized, though not at an early day, that in her vast Possessions there were local interests which were different from her own interests, and different as between Possession and Possession. She realized that by giving these local interests the privilege of being administered by the people of the different colonies all discontent would soon disappear. By yielding as she did to the voice of her colonies—by yielding even when it was rather late—after already, in this country, at all events, discontent had risen into rebellion—by giving self-government to the people, by giving them the privilege of settling their own affairs, and administering to their own wants as they conceived their own wants to be, the discontent was replaced by loyalty and from that time to the present the Empire of Great Britain under the self-governing policy has rested upon the devotion of the people and upon nothing else. Thus, sir, the political problem has been solved. (Cheers.)

Now, we are face to face with the commercial problem. It is evident from the discussion which has taken place in the Congress that there is in the Motherland, and that there is in the colonies a general desire—not only a general desire, but an intense desire to establish closer relations between the Motherland and the colonies. But no sooner has that desire been announced than immediately difficulties arise in all their formidable potency.

It had been suggested a few years ago, and it was the suggestion of Mr. Chamberlain himself, that the problem might be solved, if it was possible to establish between all sections of the British Empire, a system of free trade against the world. That has been found to be impracticable. (Hear, hear.) The people of the Motherland are loath to part with the system under which they have been immensely prosperous and as far as I know the colonies share equally that loathing to part with the policy under which they also have been prosperous. It has been suggested to try another means, and that was to have a system over the whole Empire based upon a common customs tariff. This has been also found impracticable because the Motherland, as I said, is free trade, and I am sorry to say, and believe, that in most of the colonies there is a slight tendency to what I would call the heresy of protection. (Laughter.) But that heresy has not taken the same root everywhere. You cannot find the same tariff in any two of the colonies. The tariff of Canada is not the tariff of our neighbor, Newfoundland, and the tariff of Newfoundland is not the tariff of Australasia, and the tariff of Australasia is not the tariff of New Zealand. Therefore, we must conclude from these differences of tariffs that in every part of the British Empire, in England, in Canada, in Australia, in New Zealand, there are different local interests which must be recognized, and which must be respected. (Hear, hear.) How are we, therefore, to approach the problem? How are we to reach that object which we have in view? How are we to extend our relations and how make them closer? I don't know, but that the key has not been given to us a few days ago in an address, and a very sensible address, by a very sensible man, I refer to the Duke of Devonshire. In his last address he delivered, I think, at our last meeting of the British Empire League, he said—and you will see what pregnant words are made use of by him: "Whatever immediate advantages may appear likely to accrue to any of our colonies from such preferential arrangements, we are bound to recognize that these advantages can only be secured by means of something in the nature of a bargain—something in a series of treaties, something in the nature of a bargain to which each will be a party." The word "Treaty" is a very suggestive one, and means that practically between the Motherland and each of the colonies there should be

negotiations to ascertain how far we can agree, how far we can make a commercial agreement, and how far we are apart, and what the means are to bring about these closer trade relations which we all hope for. (Hear, hear.)

So far as Canada is concerned, I may say this to our friends from the Motherland. We are intensely desirous of having a preferential market for food products in Great Britain, but I may say at once that in so doing, we think such a step would better come from Great Britain than from ourselves. We do not want to force our views on our brothers on the other side of the Atlantic. We do not want to force our views on the people of Great Britain, and if, therefore, such an arrangement would not be satisfactory to them, well, for my part I do not want to have such an arrangement. If we are to have a preference—if we are to have closer trade relations, it must be with the firm conviction that such an arrangement would be mutually profitable. (Applause.) Sir, if we are to expect the people of Great Britain to make concessions to us, we must be prepared to make concessions to them. (Applause.)

When the people of Canada, in the year 1897, extended a preferential treatment to the products of Great Britain, we did it, as we thought, for our own good. There are some people, I know, who thought that perhaps we went too far on that occasion. I will not discuss this question to-night. It would take me too far into politics, but without going into the consideration of this question, I have this to lay down—that if we are to have a preferential treatment in Great Britain, we must be prepared to give Great Britain a preferential treatment in Canada. (Hear, hear.)

Now, I may be asked, "but what will be the advantage that the people of Great Britain will gain by such preferential treatment." I have only this to say: that this is a question for the consideration of the people of Great Britain. I would not presume to give advice to them, but I can say what, in my estimation, would be the advantage to the people of Canada by such an arrangement. The advantage to the people of Canada by such an arrangement would be to give us an enhanced market for our products. (Hear, hear.) I think it is the belief of all those who have something to do with public affairs in Canada; it is the belief of statesmen in this age of keen competition, that every Colonial Government should try to find a market mutually beneficial to the colonies and the Motherland. (Applause.) We are face to face with hostile tariffs in almost every direction, and it is simply by commercial treaties that we can hope to overcome them. (Applause.)

Now, gentlemen, in the remarks which were made by the Duke of Devonshire, and to which I have already alluded, there is one sentence to which it will be my duty to take some exception. He stated this: "And whatever may be the immediate advantages which will be secured to any colony, I don't think it can be doubted that the colonies will be called to surrender some of that independence and perfect freedom of action in their fiscal, commercial, and industrial legislation to which they have appeared to attach in their own interest so great an importance." I am sorry for my part that I cannot agree with this doctrine. (Hear, hear.) If we are to obtain from the people of Great Britain a concession for which we would be prepared to give an equivalent, and if we are to obtain it also at the expense of the surrender of some of our political rights, for my part, I would simply say "let us go no further, for already we have come to the parting of the ways." (Cheers.) Canada values too highly the system which has made her what she is, to consent willingly to part with any portion of it for whatever consideration—(hear, hear)—and even, sir, for the maintenance of the

British Empire I think it would be a most avil thing if any of the colonies were to consent to part with any of their legislative independence. (Applause.) Nor do I believe that in order to make such an arrangement of a commercial nature as I have spoken of a moment ago, it is necessary that we should be called upon to make any sacrifice of dignity or independence. (Applause.)

Sir, I have some faith in what was stated a moment ago by Lord B. assey, as to the common sense of the British people—the common sense of the British people in the Motherland, and in the colonies, to agree that the surest foundation of the British Empire rests upon the autonomy of the different sections which comprise it. (Cheers.)

Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure, therefore, that I have in proposing to you the health of "The British Empire." I hope that you all agree with me that the British Empire, if it is to live in the future must live upon the unimpaired principle of local autonomy, and that it will continue to be in the future, as in the past, a galaxy of nations. (Prolonged cheers.) I therefore propose to you the toast of the British Empire.

The toast was enthusiastically drunk.

The CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon Sir William Holland.

SIR WILLIAM HOLLAND, M.P.: Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: On behalf of those who are here to-night from the United Kingdom, I beg to say that we are deeply grateful to you, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, for your magnificent oration—(cheers)—in which you have proposed the toast. Nor are we less grateful to you, gentlemen, for the enthusiasm and warmth with which you have received it. I count it an honor to be allowed to respond to a toast which has been proposed by a statesman whose influence in the Mother Country is only less than his influence in Canada. (Hear, hear.) I notice that the task of responding to this toast is divided amongst several. It is the toast of the Empire—(hear, hear)—but, although the task of responding to that toast is sub-divided, the Empire is one and indivisible. (Cheers.) It is for the United Kingdom that I have the honor of responding to the toast. Whilst thinking much of the British Empire, don't let us think too lightly of that portion of it from which we come. (Hear, hear.) The United Kingdom is not very big, but it is very rich; it is very brave; it is very strong—(cheers)—and it is the envy—depend upon it—of many other nations. (Cheers.) We are sure, my friends, that the Motherland is not going to the dogs yet—(renewed cheers)—either in her commerce or in any other respect. During the last six months, the trade of the United Kingdom was the best six months that the United Kingdom has ever had. That does not look like going to the dogs. But, I must remember, gentlemen, that we have been here already several hours to-night, and when I look at my watch and see the time, I feel compelled to tell a story to some of you who may have heard me tell it before, because it is the only story I know of which is at all appropriate at a banquet, when the fingers of the clock have passed midnight. This story relates to a lunatic asylum in the Mother Country—I am not referring to the House of Commons—(laughter)—but there is a lunatic asylum in the Mother Country where a special kind of test is applied to the inmates to see how they are getting on, and that test is this: In the grounds of that asylum there is a water trough, with a tap at one end of the water trough to turn on the water. The tap is turned on, and a patient is brought out and given a ladle, and told to ladle the water trough empty. If the patient begins to ladle and does nothing else, he is sent back to the asylum, but, if before beginning to ladle, he turns off the tap, it is seen that there is some degree of sanity in him and he is sent to his home—

(laughter)—and so, gentlemen, at this late hour of the evening I shall best prove my sanity, by turning off the tap, and sitting down. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon the Honorable M. A. McRobert, of India.

The HONORABLE MR. McROBERT (India): Mr. Chairman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, my Lords and Gentlemen: I desire to associate myself with the very eloquent words that have fallen from the lips of Sir William Holland. I feel very unequal to undertaking to deal at all adequately with this toast. The position I have the honor to occupy to-night inspires me with awe, all the more profound because I have to follow men so eloquent and distinguished. Gentlemen, I hope you sympathize with me in undertaking to say a few words on behalf of India at this late hour. I know you would rather get to bed. (Voices: "No, no. Go on.") Well, gentlemen, you encourage me very greatly. (Laughter.)

I should like now to tell you something about India, and its influence upon British imports. Perhaps you have not all grasped the fact that it was the troops that went from India that saved the situation in Africa. (Hear, hear.) The troops from India saved Ladysmith, and they kept the flag flying. Perhaps most of you are aware that a few months ago a most remarkable series of articles appeared in the "Thunderer," entitled "Strategic Front." Now, the centre of this strategic front of the British Empire is India. It is by expressions such as this that we see that the British Empire is still commercially supreme on this subject. The British fleet is evidence of naval supremacy. It is by the 250,000 men always under arms in India that the British Empire is, from a military standpoint, supreme, and the fact that within a few days of the declaration of hostilities in South Africa troopship after troopship started from India with troops to protect Natal from the invader, saved Natal.

The present King and Emperor of India is the first Emperor of United India. Those of you who were privileged to see that great assembly last January at Delhi may have been struck by the extraordinary circumstance that for the first time in the history of the world every ruler of India was present with a peaceful object. No more impressive sight has been seen since the world began. Remember that India has a population of three hundred millions, that there are hundreds of princes and kings. And, gentlemen, you have all doubtless heard the phrase "Perish India," but I hope that if this Congress has done nothing else but to awaken in some of you a desire to understand the problems of India, it will have justified its existence. (Applause.) And I would also say that if it has suggested to any of you the desirability to see for yourselves by making a trip to India, I can tell you that the best time to arrive in India is in November, and the best time to come away is before March, or else you will feel like Pagett, M.P., who thought that everything was plain sailing and easy in India, but who found out, when confronted with the realities of the situation that it was more than he had bargained for. Gentlemen, I thank you very much for the way in which you have received what I have to say, and have responded to the toast of "The Empire." (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: I now call upon the Honorable M. L. Moss, from Australia.

HONORABLE M. L. MOSS (Agent-General in London for Western Australia): Mr. Chairman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, my Lords and Gentlemen: It affords me very great pleasure indeed, to be called upon to respond on behalf of Australia. I am sure it gives me great pleasure to come from Australia, and not the least pleasure to listen to the very eloquent speech of the proposer of this toast, the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of

Canada. It is a great source of gratification that an opportunity has been given me of listening to that speech, and, after a speech of that calibre, I feel it superfluous that I should try to add anything, and therefore I do not intend to speak at any great length.

It gives me great pleasure to respond on behalf of Australia, because in Australia the same feelings of loyalty and feeling of sentiment towards the Old Country that you have in Canada are present there. Canada undoubtedly, in the trouble that Great Britain had in South Africa came nobly to the front, but Australians, I think, may proudly claim that they have been in no way behindhand. (Hear, hear—loud applause.)

This Congress has done one thing, if it has done nothing else, if only it has made the people of the Old Country largely realize that this is a great country. During my visit to England, if one thing more than another impressed me, it was the dreadful ignorance of the people there about the outlying parts of the Empire. To go through London and see their ignorance of Canada and Australia, and know that there was no inclination to know anything more was very painful to me. But seeing all these great business men and men travelling through Canada and coming in contact with the people here, I hope they will familiarize themselves with this country, and go back to England to tell the people there of what the colonies are, particularly what the colony of Canada is, and what they are able to do for the Empire. (Applause.)

Australia is much in the same position as you are in Canada. We have a very important position there, because we are the connecting link which Great Britain has in the south seas. And I think that those who are in charge of our affairs in Australia will so conduct themselves, that the people of Great Britain will have no fault to find with our administration, and I think we can hand down the provisions of the British Empire perfectly unsullied. (Hear, hear.)

I thank you, gentlemen, for the way you have responded to the toast of the Empire, and have listened to my few words on behalf of Australia.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I now call upon Mr. W. L. Anderson, from South Africa.

**MR. W. T. ANDERSON** (President, Kimberley, S.A., Chamber of Commerce): Mr. Chairman, my Lords and Gentlemen: I thank you for according me the present opportunity of responding to the toast of the Empire on behalf of South Africa. I think it is part of my duty to apologize to Canada and to Montreal in particular for the very small representation that we have sent to your country from South Africa. I suppose our justification must be the long distance that we are away from each other. However, I am sure that if any of our South African members had known the treat that was in store for them, you would have had more of us from South Africa. I had hoped there would be more here to help thank the Canadians for the part they took in our war in South Africa. I may tell you that I, my wife and children were in the siege of Kimberley, and I shall never forget that time when we got hemmed in and were locked up, when the Boer guns were blazing away at us from right and left, and we had no communication whatever from the outside world, with the exception of the flash light from Lord Methuen's column. And I may tell you that one night Lord Methuen flashed through to us "the Canadians are going to your assistance." (Cheers.) When we heard that they were coming to our assistance and that Australia, India and New Zealand, and other parts of the Empire were also sending troops to our assistance, we thought, "Well, it does not matter how long this struggle lasts, we will win out in the end." (Cheers.) And we did win out, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, and I am sure we are indebted to the Canadians for helping

us, and I have often wondered how we could show our appreciation for what they have done for us. How can we help the Canadians? We cannot, I am sorry to say, give you back your noble sons that fought bravely and fell fighting for their King. Can we give you anything at all? I think we can, in a small way. We now have arranged for a 25 per cent. preference which we are going to give you freely, and I think that we can give you a share of the trade that is now going to the United States. (Loud applause.) I represent a firm which is one of the largest in South Africa, and I am going to try, if possible, to divert a great deal of the trade from the United States to Canada. I am sure you can get at least a large share of that trade, and I hope you may get the whole of it. That is all I am going to say, and I thank Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the most cordial manner for the very superior way he proposed the toast, and I thank you for the way you have responded to it. (Loud applause.)

#### THE TOAST OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

**THE CHAIRMAN** (Mr. Arthur J. Hodgson): Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: The next toast we have on our list is the last, but by no means the least, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I do not wish to be sent to that home which Sir Wilfrid Laurier so eloquently described, you will permit me to propose this in one word. You will agree with me in thanking the Government for the part they gave us in welcoming you to Canada. I think when you have taken your trip across Canada it will take no commendation to make you thank the Parliament of Canada. The progress of the country under the present Parliament—and I speak outside of politics, because the President of the Board of Trade knows no politics—no more rapid growth; no greater advancement has taken place than has taken place during the regime of the present parliament of Canada. So long as Canada is blessed with the same parliament as during the last few years, a parliament always alive to the transportation question of this country, Canada will continue to grow as in the past. I ask you to drink to the health of the Parliament of Canada, coupling with it the names of Honorable Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Borden, Leader of the Opposition. (Cheers.)

**THE HONORABLE SYDNEY A. FISHER, M.P.** (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: I feel that in speaking for the Parliament of Canada one great parliament is addressing another here to-night. (Hear, hear.) The Parliament of the Dominion of Canada is thanking the parliament of the commerce of the Empire for the enthusiasm with which it has drank our health. There are to-day three great Anglo-Saxon deliberative assemblies which have sprung from the Mother Country—the Congress of the United States of America, the Parliament of Canada, and the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia. But, sir, without boasting, I venture to say, that the Parliament of Canada has followed its model more closely, not only in its constitution, but in the spirit with which it is working out the labors which it is its duty to perform. (Hear, hear.) We have not a long history of parliamentary government here, but our Parliament has the traditions of the Parliament of the Motherland on which to work. We have a history of the long struggle for parliamentary government, which the representatives of our forefathers fought in the old land. We have the privilege here of parliamentary government given to us almost without a struggle to enjoy, and the full responsibility which these privileges carry with them. (Hear, hear.) We have had in Canada, before the creation of the Dominion, in the various parliaments of the old colonies the struggle for representative institutions. We have been suc-



conscious in that struggle, and to-day, by that common sense of the Motherland, by the common sense of the Anglo-Saxon people, we have that form of constitution which is the pride of British countries, we have the privileges of representation and self-government. (Applause.) Canada is to-day an epitome of this, because we have not only a Parliament in Canada, whose health you have so kindly drunk, but we have in it the parliaments of the provinces which form part of Confederation. This is a model, perhaps, on which the whole Empire may in the not-distant future be governed by parliaments of the several colonies, over-dwelt and over-governed by the Parliament of the Motherland. (Hear, hear.) I will not dwell longer on this phase, but I will say the Parliament of Canada has had great difficulties to contend with, great problems of administration to solve. We have a great empire under our control; that empire only a few years ago was unexplored, but we have been able to bring it under the control of the central government, and we rejoice to-day that in the far north, in the Arctic regions, in the Yukon, the administration of law and order is as good as it is in the city of Montreal to-night. (Hear, hear.) We have many problems to meet in our Parliament. We have in our Confederation people of diverse races, people of diverse language, people of diverse inspirations, but, by the wisdom of the Parliament of Canada, as the questions have arisen to confront us, they have been harmonized into a strong nation as one with itself. (Cheers.) I trust, sir, that the problem in the other parts of the Empire, which perhaps may involve some of these questions, may be worked out in their different spheres as successfully as the Parliament of Canada has done for the people of the Dominion, it may not be out of the way for me to say a word when in your Congress the food question of the Empire has been brought forward so prominently. You have discussed the question of preferential trade. You have discussed the fact that the Empire requires food which the outlying parts of the Empire can supply in most abundance. I can tell you that here in Canada we have an enormous production to supply you, that the production of to-day is only a tithe of the production of the future, when the great west shall be filled up with the bone and sinew of the emigration which we invite and which is settling there with the hope of a free, independent and prosperous life. Sir, in that question, I find that of corn coming forward most prominently, but this is not the only interesting question of the Canadian farmer. We sent the large amount of \$23,000,000 worth of wheat, \$3,000,000 worth of flour and \$3,000,000 of other grain to you last year, but at the same time and year we did that, we sent to you \$31,000,000 worth of butter and cheese, we sent to you \$19,000,000 worth of live cattle, we sent to you \$14,000,000 worth of bacon and hams; and when you come to examine our exports to the Motherland you find that of animals and their products we have exported to you to the value of \$69,000,000, and only \$34,000,000 of all other agricultural products. Then, do not run away with the idea that the question of the export of corn from Canada is the only question in the commerce of the country which affects the farmer of the land. Let me say one more thing, and I say it to the guests from the Motherland, the sum of agricultural success in Canada is the purchasing power of the masses in the Old Land. It is to you and your people we send our surplus; it is through the money received for them that we are prosperous beyond the aspiration of our people a few years ago. Anything you do to interfere with the purchasing power of your people would be the deadliest blow at Canada you could strike. No preference you could give us in your market for the agricultural products of Canada could make up to us for the decrease in the purchasing power of your people. As to what may decrease that, it is not for us

to say. You, gentlemen, who have to rule the Motherland and who have to deal with her economic problems, know the facts better than we do, and we believe you will deal with them in such a way as not to injure any of your fellow-citizens in the colonies of the Empire. (Hear, hear.) Let me add one word. I understand you are coming to Ottawa in a few days. I trust you will visit our Parliament Buildings there. I can assure you on behalf of the Government of Canada of a hearty welcome, and we will be proud to show you the capital of our Dominion. (Cheers.)

#### REPLY OF MR. R. L. BORDEN, K.C., M.P.

Mr. Robert Laird Borden, M.P. (Halifax), leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the Canadian House of Commons, was accorded a most enthusiastic reception when he arose to add his response to the toast.

Mr. Borden said: Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: I am sure that at this hour I might do well to follow the suggestion which has been made to-night and not turn on the tap at all, but, as it is the first time and perhaps the last time that I shall have the privilege of saying a few words to you, perhaps you will bear with me. (Hear, hear.) It seems to me that it is a great thing for the Empire, and particularly a great thing for Canada, that this Congress has met in Montreal during the present week. (Hear, hear.) We remember during the past two or three years what an object lesson, in the time of war, was given to the nations of the world, when troops from every country under the Empire's flag stood together, shoulder to shoulder, beneath the southern cross in South Africa. (Cheers.) And I am glad to have the testimony before me to-night that, standing side by side with the best soldiers of the Empire, the men who bore on their shoulder-straps the name of Canada were not unworthy to be classed with the best. (Cheers.) Another object lesson, it seems to me, is given to the world to-day, when, in another sister nation of the Empire, in Canada, we have this Congress of Commerce meeting, and speaking for the first time outside the British Islands. (Hear, hear.) And I am glad to know that in the important subjects which have engaged your attention two matters of the greatest importance to the Empire and to Canada, as a part of the Empire, have been considered and a unanimous decision arrived at upon them.

We may, perhaps, believe that the solution which you have found is not as definite as that which will ultimately be required, but at least it is a step in advance, and Canada and the Empire will hail with joy the fact that your pronouncement has been unanimous in its voice and in its spirit. (Applause.) One of the speakers to-night referred to the fact, a fact which we all recognize, that the problems concerning future commercial relations within the Empire are problems which bristle with difficulty, but let us also remember in that connection that there was never a problem worth solving which did not have some difficulty, and I am glad to know that to these problems a great man, a great statesman, the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, has undertaken to find a solution. (Applause.) Will you permit me to say here to-night that in many of these matters in the past we in this Dominion have often taken the initiative. I remember that in 1892 the Canadian House of Commons passed a resolution declaring for a system of mutual preferential trade within the Empire. I do not think so far as both political parties in Canada are concerned that there is any difference of opinion on this matter to-day. The only question is how to work it out, and will you also permit me to say this, that in the working of it out, I believe, that it is the business men of the Empire more than the politicians who must be depended on. The

statesmen and politicians of the Empire are of one mind about this, provided it can be done without injury to the interest of the Mother Country, or any of the colonies, and I concur most heartily in the words of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fisher to-night, when they both said that they could not for one moment suggest that our views in regard to this matter should necessarily impress themselves on the people of the Mother Country. We value so much the right we have acquired to follow our own fiscal policy, that we would not dream of attempting to divert the people of the Mother Country from the course which they think is in their own interest. But surely if you recognize the advantage of trading within the Empire rather than with the nations outside, it ought not to be difficult for the statesmen of the Empire to come to some reasonable conclusion as to how that can be carried out. (Hear, hear.) I rejoice that you, gentlemen, have come to see our country. May I be permitted to say that perhaps you have not come to see us often enough in the past. I do not know whether or not a Colonial Secretary of Great Britain has ever visited Canada. I know the difficulties which stand in the way. I know the enormous burdens which are imposed on the great man who so worthily fills that high place to-day. I do not know that a British ambassador at Washington has ever seen fit to come into Canada and try to understand us, and I think it might not be unworthy of the gentlemen holding a high place like that, to come into this vast country and understand—because he must come in order to understand—the enormous resources which there are in Canada. I, myself, as a Canadian, must admit that up to last year I had not thoroughly realized my own country. Last year I travelled more than ten thousand miles in the western part of Canada, and I do not know one-third of that great country yet. You will go through the country on Pullman cars, and you will come back, but do not for one moment imagine that you know the enormous splendor of the resources which we have in Canada, and how great an inheritance this is to its own inhabitants, and to the Empire. I believe that the people of the Mother Country, the people of the other colonies and the people of Canada should know each other better, should know and understand all the different Dependencies of the Empire. That would do more than anything else in the world to develop that spirit of national unity which, I am glad to say, has a very firm hold now on the hearts of the Canadian people because, as has been well said by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the people of Canada enjoy the right to govern themselves. That is a right which in the interests of the Empire it is not well that they should give up in any respect. (Applause.) They have won it gradually from the day of 1837, when in two of the great provinces of this Dominion rebellion was rife, up to the present time when the bonds of attachment to the Mother Country are stronger, I believe, than ever. (Applause.) Step by step the right to self-government has been won, and it has been won, as I have said before, for the most part on the initiative of Canadian statesmen. Just one word more. Some of our friends from the Mother Country are sometimes inclined to think that we, in Canada, are pursuing a wrong course because we do not adhere to those abstract ideas of free trade which are held by some in the Mother Country. To appreciate the situation in Canada you must understand the circumstances. You must remember that Canada stretches for four thousand miles along the border of the greatest agricultural, and certainly one of the greatest manufacturing countries in the world, and you must consider further the effect upon Canada if we undertook to put into force in this country those abstract ideas of free trade which prevail so strongly and perhaps rightfully in the Motherland. What would be in that

case our position, and what would be the position of the British manufacturers coming into this country for the purpose of selling goods in competition with one of the most enterprising and capable manufacturing countries in the world, within easy reach of our markets, and knowing everything of the wants and requirements of our people. Remember that the conditions in this country are very different from those of the Old Country, and remember also that Canada has a legitimate right to believe that her future is not to be confined to agricultural development. (Applause.) She looks forward to a great future as a manufacturing country, and I venture to say that we in Canada believe, and I think rightly, that a great industry established in Montreal or Toronto or anywhere in Canada is worth as much to the Empire as if it existed in the British Isles, or in another colony. So that while we are prepared and disposed and believe it to be our duty to give every advantage to our British brothers, we still think that we in Canada, to whom a great heritage has been committed, should see to the interests of Canada in the same way that you Britons have it as your duty to look first to the interests of the British Isles; but we also believe that the nations within the Empire united with each other more and more closely by commercial and political ties will present to the world a splendor of unity, of power and of resource such as has not been seen since the beginning of history. (Applause.) Now, Mr. Chairman, just one word in conclusion. That is regarding the matter of Imperial defence which has been discussed a great deal among you. Let me say one word in regard to the position of Canada. I hope and believe that when the day of trial comes, Canada will not be found wanting. (Applause.) Canada was animated, I believe, during the recent war in South Africa by as sincere a feeling of sympathy, by as deep a feeling of loyalty as existed anywhere in the British dominions, and when the time of trial comes again, I am sure that Canada will not be animated and actuated by the same deep feeling of attachment to the Mother Country and the sister colonies as that to which you bore witness some two or three years ago. I regret that my remarks have somewhat exceeded my intentions when I arose. I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the honor you have done me in asking me to be present at this banquet, and I sincerely trust that this meeting of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire may be found to have had a deep and abiding effect upon the future relations between the Mother Country and the Dependencies of the Empire. (Applause.)

#### COMPLIMENTARY TOASTS.

Mr. F. J. GILLESPIE (London): Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: I have a toast to propose which I need not excuse. It is that of our Chairman, coupled with the names of Mr. George E. Drummond, Mr. William I. Gear, and Mr. Herbert B. Ames. (Cheers.) I am sure that we will all agree that this banquet has been most successful and that the treatment which we have received during our stay in the city of Montreal has been of the most generous character. The arrangements for the Congress were excellent. The acoustic difficulty was remedied on the second day and after that there was nothing further which we could ask for or desire. I will not further encroach upon your time, but will ask the Marquis of Graham to support the toast.

The Rt. Honorable THE MARQUIS OF GRAHAM: Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: There are some sitting in this room and at this table, who, while they come across the seas from Britain, and while British, are not delegates to this Congress, but who have enjoyed the hospitality of the president and

members of the Board of Trade of Montreal. They are visitors, and interested visitors, and on their behalf I beg to thank you. Sometimes, when we go across the seas as visitors to Greater Britain, we find a sentiment prevailing among the people residing there which plainly shows: "You visitors from the United Kingdom, you look at us through the goggles of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. You look at us as loving your own land first, and us afterwards." That is not always so, but while we do love and respect the land of our birth, we can rejoice in heart and mind and soul at the progress, happiness and prosperity of the land you live in, of Canada, and so with these words, I will conclude, and on behalf of all visitors who are not delegates, I thank you with all my heart. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. J. Hodgson): Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen: I can only thank you on behalf of the Montreal Board of Trade—Mr. Gillespie and the Marquis of G. ham—for your very kind expressions in return for the little we have been able to do. It has been a labor of love, and I don't think it right that all the praise should be given to the Montreal Board of Trade. We have been very pleased to take the initiative move in this direction, but it would not be fair to those who shared the duty with us, La Chambre de Commerce of Montreal—(cheers)—of which Mr. Masson is the honored president, for us to accept all the praise. When we applied to them, they sent us their best to form a Canadian committee. But I should rather mention, first of all, the Government. We felt that without their financial assistance and without their advice, we should not be able to accomplish what we wished, and they not only gave us that assistance, or rather promised—(laughter)—I am afraid you don't know our Government, they always

keep their word—(hear, hear)—they not only promised financial assistance, but sent us their best representatives to advise us and help us on the committee of arrangements—Hon. Sydney Fisher, Hon. Mr. Prefontaine, Hon. Senator Mackay, and Mr. Bickerdike, M.P. I want also to make reference, lastly, but by no means leastly, to the railways of Canada. (Applause.) We owe more to them than we can express; for without their assistance in promising to give us special trains, and send their leading officials with us to explain what we shall see, we should not have been able to send you home with half an idea of Canada. (Applause.) I want also to make reference to one gentleman whose name has not been mentioned, but whom we, as the Montreal Board of Trade, feel, laid the foundation stone for this Congress, my predecessor in the presidency of the Montreal Board of Trade, Mr. Alexander McFee. (Hear, hear.) Now, gentlemen, as the hour is late, I wish to make one announcement, first thanking you again for the patient way you have borne with many discrepancies which we know existed. ("No, no.") Before we separate, I wish to make one announcement, and that is, that the Canadian Committee of Arrangements have prepared a medal to commemorate the holding of the Congress in this city, and it can be procured to-morrow, in room No. 4, from 9.30 to 1.30, by all delegates, on presentation of their certificates—(applause)—and any who have left, if you will kindly hand in their names in room No. 4, we will see that the medal is sent after them. And now, Your Excellency, my Lords and Gentlemen, I know of no more fitting way to end this banquet than to sing "Auld Lang Syne," and then "God Save the King."

"Auld Lang Syne" and the "National Anthem" were then sung, and the banquet was at an end.

## INAUGURATION OF THE NEW BUILDING OF THE MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE— RECEPTION TO THE DELEGATES AND THEIR LADIES.

On Monday evening, August 17th, 1903, a reception was tendered to the delegates and the ladies who accompanied them, in the New Building of the Montreal Board of Trade.

Rarely is there experienced such a happy blending of stateliness and simplicity, of grandeur and geniality, of power and pleasantness, as pervaded the atmosphere at the inauguration of the new Board of Trade building. The frank heartiness of the speeches, the natural ease with which the musical part of the entertainment was given, and the huzz of chatter that rose spontaneously from all parts of the room at every interval in the programme, made the occasion seem more like a gathering of friends for a house-warming, than a fashionable function for the reception of the commercial kings of an Empire and the inauguration of the grandest edifice that any commercial body in Canada can boast. Never did so many distinguished guests from every quarter of the globe gather to grace a Montreal gathering; and never did the house of the Montreal merchants look so worthy of the honor. As one approached it from the street and saw the outlines of the architecture all ablaze with incandescent lights, which made the white stone glisten like marble, the building appeared like a royal palace on a gala day.

Opposite the entrance hung a three-masted merchantman under full sail, the auspicious emblem of the Montreal Board of Trade, flanked by the Union Jack and Canadian ensign. The handsome Exchange hall made a perfect reception room. Its roomy floor and lofty ceiling made it commodious and airy, even for so great a throng, while the softly shaded lights and the rich red walls hung with dark glossy garlands of Boston laurel, lent warmth and cheeriness to a stage which the unaccustomed spectacle of beautifully gowned women seemed scarcely strange.

At the door the guests were received by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Hodgson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Fummond, Mr. Wm. I. Gear, Mr. James Davidson and Mrs. Davidson.

Music lent its charm to the function.

Mr. ARTHUR J. HODGSON (President of the Montreal Board of Trade), said: My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen: It is my great privilege and pleasure to-night to convey to you, not only on behalf of the Montreal Board of Trade, but also on behalf of the Canadian Committee of Arrangements, a most hearty welcome to all the Delegates to the Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, and, if I might be allowed to say—particularly, to the Honorary President and the President, Lord Strathcona and Lord Brassey. Lord Strathcona, whom we in Montreal are one and all proud to call a fellow-citizen of this the commercial metropolis of Canada, has many monuments, not only in Montreal, but in other parts of the Empire, which bear striking testimony to his princely generosity, which I question has ever been equalled. (Applause.) The active interest His Lordship has always taken in promoting the commercial interests of Canada has done much to increase and cement the commercial ties between Canada and the Mother Country. When the news came that Lord Strathcona had accepted the position of Honorary President, we felt that an honor had been conferred, not only on Canada, but, might I

say also, on the Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

Lord Brassey's is a name that is known and revered in every part of the British Empire, and surely no one could have been chosen more fitting to preside over the Fifth Congress meeting than His Lordship, who has visited every part of the world, and who, a short time ago, was the representative of the British Crown in our sister colony, Australia. Surely it is an occasion for most profound and mutual congratulations that the organizing Committee of the London Chambers, on the occasion of the first Congress meeting ever held abroad should have secured as presiding officers two such honored gentlemen. (Applause.)

When the Montreal Board of Trade decided to do their utmost to have the Fifth Congress meeting to be held in Montreal, we at once communicated with all our sister Boards in Canada, and the hearty support which our suggestion received, not only from our sister Boards, but also from the Canadian Government, went a long way, I am sure, in securing a prompt acceptance of our invitation. I would like, on behalf of the Montreal Board of Trade, to take the opportunity of conveying to our sister Boards in Canada, through the Delegates who are here present our sincere thanks and gratitude for their support on this occasion. And also on behalf of the Canadian Committee of Arrangements we tender them our warmest and heartiest appreciation for the valuable assistance they have rendered us in connection with the railway tours that most of the Delegates visiting the country, I hope, are shortly about to take. I am sure all agree that the courtesies that are to be offered to those who are taking these tours, at the various places to be visited as particularized in the Itinerary, leaves nothing to be desired. Our only regret is that, owing to the limited time that the Delegates could give to these different tours, we have been obliged to leave out several places that we wish the Delegates could have visited, but in case any delegate who is taking the "all Canada tour" may return home with the impression that he has seen, what in the Itinerary, is called, "All Canada," I may say that we have just as many more places of equal interest to see, which we shall keep for the next visit to Canada. I can only say on behalf of the Canadian Committee of Arrangements that we have done the best we could to enable you to see as much of Canada as possible, within the space of time the Delegates taking the various tours can spare.

We are gathered together to-night not only for the purpose of giving a hearty welcome to the Delegates of the Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, but also to inaugurate our new Board of Trade Building, which I shall shortly ask Lord Strathcona to do. To all the members of the Montreal Board of Trade there can be but one feeling to-night, and that is of intense satisfaction that we are once more assembled in our own building and that we have been able to finish it in time to welcome our visitors from all parts of the British Empire. For the information of our visitors, might I be permitted to say that our old building was destroyed by fire in January, 1901. The difficulties that required to be overcome before we could start to rebuild were most discouraging, and some who thought them insurmountable, bold-



ly advised us not to rebuild; but, thank God, these difficulties have been overcome, and this building is a living monument to those men who stood shoulder to shoulder in facing the situation. There are some in this room with whom it was my privilege to share in an humble way these burdens, and I would desire on behalf of the Council to say that we feel that the privilege of welcoming our guests to-night in our new building is due, in a very large measure, to the untiring energy of our predecessors, and specially might I say of my predecessors, Mr. Henry Miles, followed by Mr. Alexander McFee, who, as presidents during that period have had to assume a very large share of responsibility. I would also desire to express our deep gratitude to those of our second mortgage bond holders who, when the hour was darkest, came to our assistance, by voluntarily agreeing to forego all interest for a period of years. (Hear, hear.) Our thanks are due also to our contractors, Messrs. P. Lyall & Sons, who assisted us materially by agreeing to take hold of the first mortgage bonds as part payment, at a time when it was difficult to find a buyer because of the prospect of lack of revenue, until such time as the building could be completed. I think also we should not on this occasion forget the Architect, Mr. Brown, who designed for us a building, that is not only superior to the old one, but is also fireproof, and will enable the Board to receive a larger revenue than was possible in the old building.

It seems particularly fitting to-night that Lord Strathcona should honor us by inaugurating our new building. I believe, my Lord, you honored the Montreal Board of Trade in 1892, by laying the corner stone of the old building, and on behalf of the Board I have now, my Lord, to ask you to inaugurate our new building, and to thank you for your kindness in consenting to do so. (Applause.)

#### LORD STRATHCONA'S ADDRESS.

The RT. HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL: Mr. President, Lord Brassey, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have listened with very great pleasure and very great satisfaction to the statement given by Mr. Hodgson, as well with regard to this beautiful building as to the building that was lost to you and to the citizens of Montreal in the great fire which swept it away, and also with reference to the effort that has been made by yourself and your predecessor in restoring it as we find it now in this magnificent fireproof building, or as nearly fireproof as it is possible to make any building.

I must for one moment refer to the kind way in which you expressed yourself with regard to myself this evening. You have spoken of the honor, as you say, that has been conferred upon you on account of my consenting on this occasion to inaugurate this building. I, on the other hand, Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen, consider that you have done me a signal honor in affording me the privilege of assisting with you on this auspicious occasion—an occasion graced as it is by the presence of the delegates and the ladies coming, not alone from the Mother Country, for had it been only from the Mother Country I know that no greater welcome could be given to those coming from the Motherland—(hear, hear)—but here we have with us those from every part of the Empire. Aye, and those who, while they may have been born thousands and thousands of miles away from that dear old Motherland, regard themselves equally Britons as those who were born within the sound of Bow Bells. (Applause.)

Does it not give an assurance that all this is not merely ephemeral, this idea of coming closer and closer together, but that it is something that is deep

down in the hearts of the people, that it is in the very nature of the people of England and of the people of Greater Britain beyond the seas, that it is in short imperishable, and that so long as those different parts of the world shall last, so long will remain sound and steady together the different races which compose that great Empire. (Applause.)

I did not, Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen, for a moment think of making any formal address this evening in response to this admirable statement that has been made by Mr. Hodgson, and these kindly words he has used towards Lord Brassey and myself. For Lord Brassey it is unnecessary that I should say anything. He can speak for himself in far more eloquent terms than it would be possible for me to use, as we have had an earnest of to-day in that eloquent address, that well-conceived and well-received address of his before this great Congress, that he is truly the one to move the hearts and feelings of men. However, I am sure that I will be permitted to say that I am proud and happy to be present with you to-night, and proud to be associated with the President of this great Congress on this occasion. It is a little late in the evening—and I am afraid we were just a little late coming—and so I do not intend to keep you, and I am very much afraid that even now I have said more than you really care to listen to—(“no, no,”)—but I know how good and how partial and how kind you have always been to me, not on one occasion only, but again and again, and if there is one specially happy moment in my life it is when I come back among my old friends here in Canada. (Applause.)

I repeat that we are proud to see here amongst us on this occasion those delegates coming from the Mother Country and we are glad that they have come here because we know that after going through the length and breadth of this great Dominion, which is so dear to all of us who know it here, that they will go back to their homes, and they will have not only a liking for the people of Canada, but they will be permeated with that feeling which actuates you and all of us who know Canada and belong to it, and will feel that we have an inheritance and that they have an inheritance in this Dominion of which we may well be proud. (Applause.)

You have spoken, sir, of the laying of the corner stone of the building which preceded the present one, on the 19th of May, 1892. That was a proud moment for me when I stood on the platform, when, as a mason, from the moment I took the compass and trowel and declared that that stone was well and truly laid—if I was proud and pleased then, and at that time I regarded Canada as a great country—it was only eleven years back—I ask you to compare Canada of that day with the Dominion of to-day. (Hear, hear.) What tremendous progress there has been in Montreal since then, until now it is a city of more than three hundred thousand inhabitants, and not only has it a population of more than 300,000, but each of them, from east to west and from north to south of the city is true and loyal, not to Canada alone, but to the Mother Country. Is it not then fitting that we should all feel proud? (Applause.)

I could go on for a long time in this faltering way. I know it is faltering, although you kindly overlook all my faults, but I may not do so. However, I think it is only right in speaking of the Board of Trade in Montreal to give honor and credit to whom honor and credit is due, and all of you who can look back but a very few years remember and can attest to the fact that the Board of Trade of Montreal and the city of Montreal is under very great obligations to one gentleman—one of your most respected senators—I speak of the Honorable George A. Drummond.—(applause)—

who did so much in bringing up the Board of Trade to the point to which it now stands. We can also, all of us, understand the great difficulty that Mr. Miles had to contend with immediately after the great fire, and no doubt, as you have said, sir, there were some faint heart and some that thought it would be impossible to get up another building, but good, stout-hearted men in Montreal did not think so. I must say that I felt myself that we would have another building and a building which we could take pride in, and that we should have, as we have to-day, and which we are now inaugurating.

There is another gentleman to whom I am informed we were very greatly indebted for the erection of the first building, I refer to Mr. Robert Archer—(hear, hear), who used efforts which very few would have given and who gave himself entirely to the object with the determination that he should succeed, and he did succeed. It must be a satisfaction to his friends to know, as I have been informed, that a beautiful portrait of himself which had been presented to him and which at the time of the fire was in the building, was preserved, and it is now hanging in the Council chamber.

That the city of Montreal—that the great Dominion of Canada will go on prospering and to prosper in a still greater measure in the future than in the past, we all feel assured of. We take pride in the resources of the Dominion of Canada from one end to the other, and especially the great wheat fields of the North-West of Canada which in a very few years—I should say within the next fifteen years, at the longest—will be capable of furnishing all the breadstuffs that may be required for Great Britain herself.

I must now close and I wish to say that it is my earnest wish and prayer that this building may be conserved to you for many many years. The time will come, and it will not be very far off, when the requirements of Montreal will be such that you will require a greater and grander building than even this one, but there is no reason, such being the case that we should not be proud of having this one which is sufficient for the moment and will be sufficient for some time to come; but if Montreal and the Dominion have advanced as we know they have for these many years back, they will go forward now, to use a trite expression, by leaps and bounds, and those who come after us a few years hence will hardly recognize as the same city and the same circles in that city those which they recognize to-day. (Applause.)

I have now to close, and I am sure it will be a satisfaction that I should do so. ("No, no.") I will close my few remarks with the earnest prayer and hope that this building may be conserved for many years, and I consider, sir, it is a very great privilege to me to have the honor of declaring this building open. (Applause.)

Mr. A. J. HODGSON (President of the Montreal Board of Trade): My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen: It seems to me to be peculiarly fitting that the Board of Trade and the Commercial Metropolis of Canada should be honored to-night with the presence of Lord Brassey, the President of our Congress—(applause)—but I think Montreal is generally considered to be the commercial metropolis of Canada, and I do not think that ever in the history of Canada has there been such a gathering as we see here to-night of commercial men and statesmen from all parts of the Empire gathered within the halls of the Board of Trade building. I know that the delegates to the Congress rejoice with us to-night in being honored by the presence of Lord Brassey and I am sure that all here will echo my wish that he will kindly favor us with a few words. (Applause.)

The RT. HONORABLE LORD BRASSEY, K.C.B.: I feel, Mr. Hodgson, in a somewhat difficult position of facing both ways, for I do not like to turn my back on Lady Strathecona, and I do not like to turn my back on the audience.

I must honestly say that the position in which I find myself is not one to which I am wholly unaccustomed. Before I entered this noble room, nothing was further from my contemplation than that I should be called upon to make a speech, but as it happens to-night so it has happened to me many times when I was away in Australia, without the slightest previous warning I was constantly appealed to, "Oh, do get up and say a few words." (Laughter.)

When the words are to be few, they should be carefully chosen; they should be premeditated; they should be words of a golden value, but I do feel that the situation is one in which it is at any rate essential that the words should be few. (Renewed laughter.) I don't know, Mr. Hodgson, exactly how things were progressing before you led that solemn and dignified procession into this room. I don't know just what you interrupted when you walked in that way—I don't know how far it may or may not have been that "soft eyes were looking love to eyes that loved again," but from all appearances everything seemed to be going merry as a marriage bell. It may have been so in some corner and I have heard some bright and cheerful voices not many minutes ago which would rather suggest to me that anything very lengthy in the way of a speech and constituting an interruption to those proceedings to which I have referred, might not be altogether welcome. (Laughter.)

However, I am certain that if I were to take my note from the kind words with which you introduced me, as a great authority on commerce, that if at this epoch in the evening I were to enter into the question of fiscal policy, I am sure I would make you all very sad. (Laughter.) You don't want to hear that, but, perhaps, you will permit me to say that I do admire greatly this beautiful building, that I do recognize it is a credit to all concerned in erecting it, and I trust I may be permitted from the depth of my heart to say that I hope it may be found conducive to the good administration of the commercial interests of this great commercial city. (Applause.)

Well, one thought more: We have been saying to each other all day long, first at the Congress and then at our delightful and most interesting luncheon table, and again later at the second deliberation of the Congress—we have been saying to ourselves what a good thing these meetings are, how they bind together the Empire—what a good thing it is that we should enter into social relations with one another. Well, I greatly admire a fine man—a man of a career—a man of light and learning, but, I am only human, and when I talk of social relations I do like to see the ladies take some part—(laughter)—and all the time after you passed me that announcement that I was to speak I tried to ask my taxed and weary brain what can I say and I could think of nothing but the ladies. (Laughter.) They were a new feature of the occasion, and a very delightful one, and much as I appreciated the privilege this morning of making the acquaintance of Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Drummond, I hope they will forgive me if I say that I thought it quite as good an opportunity to have this evening the privilege of being introduced to Mrs. Hodgson and Mrs. Drummond.

I firmly believe these social meetings are of the greatest possible benefit, and I am glad that the ladies are here this evening showing that they enter into these high matters with sympathy and appreciation. They know very well that no good cause can prosper

unless they take some part in it and grace it with their approval. (Applause.)

At this point the National Anthem was enthusiastically sung and hearty cheers given for Lord Brassey and Lord and Lady Strathcona.

The reception terminated after a most enjoyable entertainment.

#### TOURS THROUGH CANADA—ENTERTAINMENTS, ETC.

The Canadian Pacific Railway of Canada and the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada afforded an opportunity to the delegates and their ladies to visit different parts of Canada, and to see the vast and fertile country, the thriving cities and towns; the heritage of the Empire in North America. The trains placed at the disposal of the delegates were composed of all Pullman, dining and private cars, the most luxurious specimens in the world of the car-builders' art. Prominent officials of the railway companies accompanied the trains.

The delegates had not returned to Montreal at the time this publication had gone to press, but telegrams and correspondence *en route* expressed their appreciation of the courtesies everywhere extended to them by governmental, municipal and commercial bodies throughout the Dominion. Mr. A. J. Hodgson, Mr. Alexander McFee, Mr. H. B. Ames, Mr. D. Masson, Hon. A. Desjardins, Mr. George Hadrill, representing the Montreal commercial bodies, accompanied the delegates on their journeyings.

The delegates to the Fifth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire started on their all-Canada and west central tours at 8 o'clock on the morning of Monday, August 20th, over the Grand Trunk Railway. There were eight Pullman sleepers on the train, and the Grand Trunk official car "Canada."

On the official car "Canada" were Mr. W. E. Davis, passenger traffic manager; Mr. G. T. Bell, general passenger and ticket agent; Mr. H. G. Elliott, assistant general passenger and ticket agent; and Mr. H. E. Charlton, of the advertising department of the Grand Trunk. The itinerary for this portion of the trip included stops at Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, London, Detroit and Port Huron, at which point an inspection was made of the St. Clair tunnel, a trip through the Muskoka Lakes to the Royal Muskoka Hotel. At all of these stopping places the delegates were entertained at luncheons and dinners.

There were 220 delegates on board the train, and of these all but seventy-nine took in the all-Canada trip. The others left the main body at Toronto, and, returning to Montreal, took in the Maritime Provinces. The majority of the remaining 153 went through to the Pacific Coast; a number of them leaving the party at Winnipeg, Banff, Calgary and Regina to return east.

The following left the main body of the delegates at Toronto on Monday, August 31st, came back to Montreal, and travelled through the Maritime Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, returning by the Canadian Government Railway (The Intercolonial) to Quebec on September the 13th:

Richard Ainley, Morley; W. T. Anderson, Kimberley; Mrs. Anderson, Kimberley; Miss Agius, London; E. T. Agius, London; Capt. A. Adams; H. P. Bedford, Sheffield; Wm. F. Beardshaw, Sheffield; Isaac Bockett, Dublin; J. G. Cox, Port of Falmouth; Charles Charlton, London; Mrs. Charlton, London; Miss Charlton, London; Geo. E. Davies, Bristol; Edgar Fitton, Ossett; E. W. Fithian, London; Mrs. Fithian, London; Geo. D. Gibson, Galashiels; Mrs. Gibson, Galashiels; Major Wm. Gradwell, Barrow-in-Furness; T. M. Haywood, Cardiff; Jaa. Hurman, Cardiff; W. R. Hawkins, Cardiff; Henry Heys, Bury; W. Hellewell, Heckmondwike; Miss Hellewell, Heckmondwike; John Hibbard, Sheffield;

field; C. H. Husey, London; G. H. Heath, Barrow-in-Furness; Reginald Henriques, Cairo; Mrs. E. M. Henriques, Cairo; Geo. Hirst, Birstall; Councillor C. H. Hogg, North Shields; Alderman J. R. Hogg, North Shields; John Hunter, Derby; Mrs. Hunter, Derby; Wm. Kay, Bolton; W. North Lewis, Cardiff; Mrs. Lewis, Cardiff; E. Lilienfeld, Pretoria; H. P. Marsh, Sheffield; Mrs. Marsh, Sheffield; J. G. Maude, Bradford; Wm. Mande, Bradford; Mrs. Mande, Bradford; Jas. Millar, Trinidad; Geo. Martin, Walsall; Mrs. Geo. Martin, Walsall; W. D. Peacock, Hobart; Alderman Paget, Keighly; F. Paget, Keighly; John Rae, Aberdeen; John F. Rockhey, Torquay; Reginald B. Rockhey, Torquay; F. Salisbury, Liverpool; A. E. Showell, Liverpool; T. A. Smith, Walsall; Mrs. Smith, Walsall; Jas. Spence, Aberdeen; F. Swanzy, London; Mrs. Swanzy, London; Miss Swanzy, London; Miss — Swanzy, London; Wm. Statham, London; Mrs. Statham, London; Edward Snell, Durban, Natal; T. E. Snell, Durban, Natal; Geo. Sykes, Heckmondwike; R. S. Taylor, Bury; Edgar Tripp, Trinidad; Francis J. Usher, Dublin; Joseph Walton, M.P., Barnsley; Geo. H. Wilson, Ossett.

At Toronto the following were transferred to the Canadian Pacific Railway at North Bay, Ontario, on Monday, August 24th, and proceeded to Manitoba, the North-west Territories and British Columbia on the Pacific Coast, returning to Montreal on September the 22nd:

Gerald F. Adams, Canterbury; T. V. S. Angier, London; Mrs. Angier, London; Wm. Angus, London; Herbert B. Ames, Montreal; Herbert Baron, Kendall; J. C. Batley, Heckmondwike; Mrs. J. C. Batley, Heckmondwike; F. W. Bentley, Huddersfield; Wm. Best, Bradford; J. W. Blackburn, Batley; E. J. Boake, London; Mrs. Boake, London; John S. Booth, Wakefield; S. B. Boulton, London; Harold Boulton, London; Mrs. Harold Boulton, London; Miss Boulton, London; Servant with Mr. Boulton (Archer), London; T. Cannon Brookes, Walsall; Herbert E. Brooks, London; E. W. Brown, London; Mrs. Bolsover, Rockhampton, Aust.; Geo. Cawley, London; Miss Cawley, London; R. Clover, Portsmouth; N. L. Cohen, London; C. W. Cohen, London; Wm. Collard, Torquay; F. W. Cook, Dndley; John Cope, Walsall; Geo. A. Corderoy, London; Jas. Cormack, Edinburgh; Amos Crabtree, Bradford; John Kyte Collet, Cardiff; Mrs. Crabtree, Bradford; Miss Crabtree, Bradford; A. D. E. Craig, Jr., London; C. T. Craig, London; Thos. Cooke, Burnley; Capt. F. Denaro, London; R. Harvey Daw, Plymouth; Hon. A. Desjardins, Montreal; Jos. Dixon, Sheffield; Miss Dixon, Sheffield; Jos. S. Dronsfield, Oldham; Henry Durler, Luton; Mrs. Durler, Luton; Thos. Eaton, Canterbury; John Falconer, Dover; R. S. Fraser, London; Edward Gardiner, Galashiels; E. J. Gillespie, London; Geo. Goodwille, Trinidad; T. Geddes Grant, Trinidad; J. L. Greenaway, Wolverhampton; Jos. Hacking, Blackburn; Geo. Hadrill, Montreal; Jos. Hargreaves, Blackburn; Robt. E. Hart, Blackburn; Capt. J. Harwood, Blackburn; L. P. Headley, Ashford; Elijah Helm, Manchester; Thos. Henderson, Hawick; Mrs. Henderson, Hawick; Geo. R. Hobson, Jr., Basutoland; Geo. R. Hobson, Basutoland; A. J. Hodgson, Montreal; J. U. Hodgson, Liverpool; Mrs. J. U. Hodgson, Liverpool; Whitley Horsfall, Halifax; Mrs. Horsfall, Halifax; Sidney Humphries, London; Mrs. Humphries and child, London; A. Jagger, Walsall; H. W. Jagger, Walsall; A. M. James, Newport; J. S. Jeans, London; Mrs. Jeans, London; Miss Jeans, London; Edgar Jobson, Derby; Price Jones, Liverpool; A. Latimer, Plymouth; C. P. Lancaster, Liverpool; Chas. Lancaster, Liverpool; Frank Langston, Rockhampton; Gen. J. W. Laurie, London; Mrs. Laurie, London; Miss Laurie, London; Miss Annie Laurie, London; Miss Mary Laurie, London; Ward Layle; Alex. McFec, Montreal; K. McFee, London; Geo. F. McKay, Kendal; Hon. A.

McRobert, Cawnpore; Mrs. McRobert, Cawnpore; H. W. Macalister, Oldham; D. Marsland, Oldham; Geo. Pallister Martin, Bristol; Mrs. G. P. Martin, Bristol; James McConnell, Belfast; D. Manson, Montreal; E. Matheson, Leeds; Mrs. Matheson, Leeds; Paul Meyer, Nottingham; J. H. Mullins, Cardiff; Mrs. Mullins, Cardiff; Jas. Moon, Liverpool; M. L. Moss, Freemantle; Mrs. Moss, Freemantle; Kenric B. Murray, London; E. J. C. Markgraf, Official Stenographer, Montreal; James Moore, Belfast; Mrs. Moore, Belfast; Charles Notman, Official Stenographer, Montreal; Geo. Ordish, Luton; A. E. Paget, Newport; E. Parkes, M.P., Birmingham; Mrs. Parkes, Birmingham; Jonathan Peate, Leeds; Mrs. Peate, Leeds; J. C. Pillman, London; Mrs. Pillman, London; J. L. Pollock, Paris; I. D. Pollock, Paris; Wm. Preedy, Walsall; James Ramsden, Birstall; Jos. Ramsden, Birstall; T. B. Renshaw, Rockhampton; C. H. Rhodes, Wakefield; H. Ricketts, Rockhampton; S. W. Royce, Manchester; A. J. Sanderson, Galashiels; Ernest E. Slater, Yeaton; Harry Spivey, Heckmonwike; Mrs. Spivey, Heckmonwike; A. P. Steeds, Swansea; E. F. Slack, Press Representative, Montreal; F. T. Thomas, Swansea; Wm. Thomas, Wolverhampton; Edgar Tripp, Trinidad; E. W. Wakefield, Kendal; M. de P. Webb, Karachi; A. W. White, Portsmouth; Mrs. White, Portsmouth; Miss White, Portsmouth; Geo. Wigley, Nottingham; Walter B. Wilson, Barneley; J. H. Wimble, Jersey; Henry F. Wright, Barrow-in-Furness; J. O. Wright, Barbadoes; Jos. Wright, Nottingham; Jos. Yardley, Walsall; G. H. Young, Barrow-in-Furness; Charles Yates, Leeds.

#### ENTERTAINMENTS.

The delegates to the Congress were generously entertained by the leading citizens.

Lord and Lady Strathcona gave a Reception at their Montreal residence on Tuesday, August 18th, in addition to a number of Dinner parties.

The Honorable Senator Drummond and Mrs. Drummond entertained at a Reception in their residence.

Mr. Geo. E. Drummond entertained at his country seat, Mount St. Bruno.

Mr. A. J. Hodgson gave a Lunch to a number of delegates at the St. James' Club.

Hon. Senator MacKay also entertained a number of delegates to Lunch at the St. James' Club.

The Rt. Honorable Lord Brassey entertained generously on his yacht "The Sunbeam," which, during the Congress, lay in the harbour.

His Worship the Mayor of Montreal (James Cochran, Esq.) and the Aldermen of the City entertained the delegates to a garden party held on the summit of Mount Royal Park, from which a grand view is obtainable of the city, the St. Lawrence River and the surrounding country.

A medal struck in commemoration of the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire was issued to the delegates. It is about two inches in diameter, and bears on the obverse side the British Coat of Arms. Surrounding this is a spray of bay leaves, and the crests of the colonies participating in the Congress, the Canadian crest occupying the premier position at the top of the medal. The inscriptions are: "To commemorate the Fifth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire," and "Montreal, August 17 to 20, 1903." The reverse side shows a view of Montreal from the harbour, and of the Board of Trade building, surrounded by a double wreath of maple leaves. The medal is enclosed in a plush-lined leather case, a white satin ribbon in the cover bearing this lettering in gold: "With the compliments of the Canadian Committee of Arrangements."

The Committee also presented each delegate with a handsomely bound "Handbook of Canada," especially prepared for the occasion, and a copy of the "Statistical Year Book of the Dominion."



G. S. BURLAND.  
Pres't & Mangr

JEFFERY H. BURLAND.  
Vice Pres't

G. E. VALLEAU.  
Secy Treas



MONTREAL OFFICE. 9 BLEURY STREET.



# CANADA'S PROUD POSITION

## HER EVER INCREASING TRADE ONE OF STILL VASTER POSSIBILITIES

Canada in area is more than one third of the North American Continent and larger than the Continent of Europe.

Canada has a greater available food producing area than any other country.

She has greater and better facilities for the transportation of her produce than any other country.

Canada's waterways are more extensive than any others. Lake Superior is the greatest expanse of fresh water on the globe. Canada's canals are extensive and free from tolls.

Canada's railroad mileage, per capita, is the largest of any country in the world, and stands eighth among all countries, irrespective of population. Her present 20,000 miles is being rapidly added to from year to year.

Canadian ports are nearer Europe, and her ports on the Pacific are nearer China and Japan than any others in the Western Hemisphere.

Canada has direct lines of steamers to Europe, Africa, Australia, China, Japan, the West Indies and South America.

Canada's Trade and Commerce is increasing at a more rapid rate than is that of any other country. She has more than doubled her trade within the past seven years. The total imports and exports for the years 1895 and 1903 were as follows:

1895,	-	-	-	\$224,420,485.
1903,	-	-	-	\$467,064,695.

Canada stands first of all countries publishing statistics in percentage of increase of trade during such period, and is capable of still greater and more rapid expansion.

Canada's exports of ANIMALS AND THEIR PRODUCE during the year ended June 30th, 1903, was	-	-	-	-	-	\$70,000,000.
The largest single item was CHEESE,	-	-	-	-	-	\$25,000,000.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS during the same period,	-	-	-	-	-	\$45,000,000.
The largest single item being WHEAT,	-	-	-	-	-	\$24,500,000.
The PRODUCE OF THE FOREST,	-	-	-	-	-	\$36,000,000.
The PRODUCE OF THE MINE,	-	-	-	-	-	\$35,000,000.
MANUFACTURES nearly	-	-	-	-	-	\$21,000,000.

Canada can and will be, within a few years

## THE GRANARY OF THE EMPIRE.

During the current season more grain has been shipped via Montreal than via any other port on the Continent. Canada offers a Preferential Tariff to Sister Colonies willing to reciprocate.

For information on any particular line connected with the trade and commerce of Canada, apply to the following Canadian Commercial Agents:

- J. S. Larke, The Exchange, Sydney, Australia, agent for New South Wales, Queensland and New Zealand.
- D. H. Ross, P.O. Box 140, Melbourne, Australia, agent for Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.
- James G. Jardine, P.O. Box 1232, Cape Town, Cape Colony, agent for South Africa.
- Peter B. Ball, 16 Bennett's Hill, Birmingham, England, agent for Birmingham.
- A. Poindron, 101 Rue Réaumur, Paris, France, agent for France.
- G. Eustace Burke, Kingston, Jamaica, agent for Jamaica.
- Robert Bryson, St. John, Antigua, agent for Antigua, Montserrat and Dominica.
- S. L. Horsford, St. Kitts, agent for St. Kitts, Nevis and Virgin Islands.
- Edgar Tripp, Port of Spain, Trinidad, agent for Trinidad and Tobago.
- C. E. Sontum, Grubbegd, No. 4, Christiania, Norway, agent for Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

Or direct to

**The Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, Canada.**

SEPTEMBER 1, 1903.

K—Insert

# CANADIAN FLOUR

Manufactured from Selected Hard Wheat, the far famed Wheat of Manitoba. Having our own Elevators throughout the Canadian Northwest and buying direct from the farmer, we are in a position to supply the Choicest Flours at best possible prices

Mills at Keewatin and Portage La Prairie, Man.  
Daily Capacity 5,000 Barrels

## LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO. LIMITED.

MONTREAL, P.Q. and WINNIPEG, MAN.



## "LA PRESSE"



The Leading Newspaper of Canada

### ITS FIELD.

**T**HERE are one and a half million of people in the Province of Quebec, the region of which Montreal is the centre.

There are 400,000 in Montreal and suburbs alone. Montreal is a conservative but enterprising city—it is the largest city in the Dominion—it is growing.

Eighty per cent. of the inhabitants of Quebec Province are French Canadians.

The French Canadian of Canada is universally recognized as the most substantial and dependable citizen of foreign origin in the country. He is loyal to the institutions of his country and patriotic to the backbone, although cherishing a deep affection for the mother country of his origin. He lives well, and within his means; he buys carefully and pays for his purchases.

There is one point upon which the French Canadian has been often criticized and admired, it is—his love for his mother tongue; his refusal to abandon it. The French Canadian speaks and reads French.

He is French and reads French literature, French books, French papers. The French language is recognized in Parliament. The minutes of all proceedings and debates are printed in both French and English. A speech in the House may be made in either language. Court records are kept in the same way.

The Premier of Canada is a French Canadian.

Four of the ministers of the Dominion Government are, too.

The Lt.-Governor, the Premier of the Province of Quebec and the large majority of the members of the Cabinet are French Canadians.

For the advertiser to attempt to reach this large and influential people through the English newspapers in Canada is folly.

Any advertising appropriation which does not include the largest daily newspaper of Canada and take into consideration the Canadians who speak the French language will prove a defective plan of advertising campaign.

### ITS CIRCULATION.

In determining the value of a publication as an advertising medium, the first point is that of *quantity* of circulation.

**The Sworn Daily Circulation of  
"LA PRESSE"**

**is over 75,000 paid copies a day.**

**It is the Largest Circulation in British North America without any exception, French or English.**

It is greater by over 25,000 copies per day than the circulation of any English daily in Canada.

There are published in Canada also French daily newspapers. The total of their circulation is 55,000 a day. "La Presse" alone swears to over 75,000 a day, thereby exceeding the combined circulation of all the other dailies of the country by over 20,000 a day.

By using "La Presse" advertisers will practically cover the entire French population of Canada.

It will be unnecessary for the advertiser who does this to advertise in any other French newspaper in the Dominion.

#### Quality.

The second most important consideration in an advertising medium is the *quality* of its circulation.

It is unnecessary to say any more about the quality of the circulation of "La Presse" than that it reaches a class of thrifty well-to-do citizens, many of them wealthy. There can be no better quality of circulation.

#### Guaranteed Circulation.

The circulation of "La Presse" is sworn to, every year, every month and every day. The following clause is inserted in every advertising contract:—

"This contract can be cancelled at any time if the regular circulation, as claimed, is not proven. Moreover, all amounts paid on advertisements already inserted will be refunded."

## Largest Circulation in Canada Without Exception



## RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS.

The following were the resolutions on the Agenda paper submitted to the Fifth Congress: The official report shows the disposition made of them. The resolutions are occasionally referred to by number in the report and the number is appended to each here:—

### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MOTHER COUNTRY HER COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

(1) *Montreal Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS in the resolution adopted by the Fourth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, held in London, June, 1900, it was stated that an advantageous commercial bond is one of the strongest links in national unity, and that the maintenance and strengthening of trade is the keystone of a nation's successful development;

WHEREAS it is the opinion of this Congress that it is in the interests of the Empire that some practical steps should be taken towards consummating such an arrangement;

WHEREAS the British Colonies are admittedly rich in natural resources, possessing as they do vast areas of arable and mineral lands as yet undeveloped;

WHEREAS the Colonies are even now producing in rapidly increasing quantities, grain, flour, live stock, wool, sugar, fruits, cheese, butter, etc., as well as the yield of fisheries, forests and mines, all of which are continually required by the British consumer;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this Congress is of opinion that Great Britain can best serve the interests of the Empire by giving a preference in her markets to the products of the Colonies as against the products of foreign countries. It being believed that such preference would (1) benefit Great Britain by largely freeing her from dependence upon foreign countries for her food supplies; (2) stimulate reciprocal trade within the Empire; (3) develop Colonial enterprises, and moreover serve to make the Colonies attractive, not only to the large number of British subjects emigrating annually from the British Isles, but also to the surplus population of other countries; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Congress hereby urges the Imperial Government to appoint a Royal Commission composed of representatives from the United Kingdom and the Colonies to investigate conditions and to suggest such preferential treatment of trade within the Empire as would ensure the fullest benefit thereof.

(2) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that the Vancouver Board of Trade enthusiastically supports the policy of the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, with regard to preferential trade within the Empire, and in endorsement of the resolution of the Toronto Board adopted at the Fourth Congress, desires to move as follows:—

"THAT this Congress urges upon His Majesty's Government the appointment by it of a royal commission, composed of representatives of Great Britain and her Colonies and India, to consider the possibilities of increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different portions of the Empire by preferential duties or otherwise."

(3) *La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal*.—IT IS RESOLVED that in return for commercial advantages given by the Colonies to Great Britain, this Congress should urge upon the Imperial authorities that adequate compensations be granted.

(4) *Hellerille Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that whereas the British Dominions beyond the seas are now in a position to meet nearly all the requirements of the Mother Country in the way of food products and raw material for manufacturing and whereas the market of the United Kingdom is required for the surplus products of the Colonies, this Congress of Chambers of Commerce recommend:

THAT steps be taken to bring about a conference of representatives from all portions of the Empire to consider and formulate a plan to meet the financial requirements of the Empire, which will insure free trade within and throughout its bounds and impose such duties on the products of countries that maintain tariffs against British goods as will, while yielding a revenue, foster and stimulate the various industries and natural resources on which the prosperity of the people and the stability of the Empire depend, quicken the development of its vast uncultivated domains and ensue the wealth and energy of our people to be utilized within our own National bounds.

(5) *Toronto Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS it is generally recognized that an advantageous commercial bond is the strongest link in National Unity, and that the maintenance and strengthening of trade is the keystone of a State's successful development;

AND WHEREAS the existence of an Empire is largely dependent upon the material prosperity of its people;

IT IS RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress the bonds of the British Empire would be materially strengthened, and the union of the various parts of His Majesty's Dominions greatly consolidated by the adoption of a commercial policy based upon the principle of mutual benefit, whereby each component part of the Empire would receive a substantial advantage in trade as the result of its national relationship.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to make the foregoing operative, the Chair shall appoint, before this Congress dissolves, a representative and proportionate Committee of Home and Colonial Delegates to devise a scheme of this nature, and report to this or a similar Commercial Congress, and that a copy of the resolution be officially forwarded to the Home and Colonial Governments concerned in the proposition.

(6) *Orillia Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS there is a general feeling in favour of drawing the Empire closer together commercially;

AND WHEREAS previous attempts to bring about closer trade relations have failed because the Mother Country was wedded to Free Trade and the Colonies to Protection;

AND WHEREAS, on the one hand, the rapidly increasing expenditure of the United Kingdom renders it advisable that a broader basis of taxation should be adopted, and on the other the growth and development of the Colonies make it possible for them to offer reciprocal trade advantages in return for a preference in the British market;

AND WHEREAS the ideal to be aimed at is the preservation of the British market throughout the world as a home market for British goods and produce;

IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress is of opinion that the time has come for the adoption of a system of mutual preference on the basis of Free Trade within the Empire provided that the Mother Country on her part will grant a reasonable Customs advantage in her market in the food products and merchandise of the Colonies.

(7) *St. John Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the vast natural resources of the British Colonies are now fast becoming the stay and surety of the Empire;

AND WHEREAS in Canada especially the rapid increase of railway building, the enormous agricultural development and the unprecedented immigration since 1901 have assured her commercial future;

AND WHEREAS the maintenance and strengthening of trade is the keystone of the Empire's stability;

IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress is of opinion that Great Britain will best serve the trade interests of the United Kingdom and of the Colonies, and also the needs of her crowded cities, by so amending her fiscal policy as to give to the *facta* products of her Colonies a preference over the farm products of foreign countries.

(8) *Winnipeg Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS, the granting by Canada of a preferential tariff on British imports was done with a view of inaugurating a policy which it was hoped might be taken up by the other parts of the Empire, especially the Mother Country, and that in time a certain measure of reciprocity might be looked for, with a consequent knitting together of the commercial interests of the whole Empire.

WHEREAS, at present one country not enjoying this preference has discriminated against Canadian products, while so far no official favouring discrimination has been shown by those who have received the preference.

AND WHEREAS the natural result of this state of affairs will be the creating of a feeling that this giving of a one-sided preference cannot be continued.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire pieces on record its opinion that every effort should be made to continue, and enlarge on, the policy of preferences to be given and received within the Empire, thus strengthening the commercial interests which bind the Colonies to each other, and to the Mother Country, and adding that very powerful factor to the sentimental and patriotic tie which so closely knits them together.

(9) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT a reciprocal preferential tariff be established within the Empire, whereby at all British ports British goods would be admitted at a lower rate of duty than foreign goods, and particularly that the British Government be memorialized to grant a preference to the Empire when instituting a tariff to South Africa.

(10) *Manchester Chamber of Commerce*.—THIS Congress, whilst earnestly desirous of increasing and strengthening the commercial ties which bind together the various parts of the Empire, is of opinion that in the pursuit of this object the following principles should be observed:—

1. No Imperial Customs policy can be satisfactory which sacrifices the interest of any separately governed portion of the Empire.

2. Any change in intra-imperial Customs arrangements which seriously threatens the welfare of the manufacturing industries of the Mother Country, threatens also the interests of the population of the Colonies and Dependencies, who find their largest market and their best customers, for exports of food products and raw materials, amongst the wage-earning population and the manufacturers of the United Kingdom.

(11) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress urges upon His Majesty's Government the appointment by them of a Special Commission composed of representatives of Great Britain and her Colonies and India, to consider the possibilities of increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire, and in regard to trading facilities within the Empire and with foreign countries.

(12) *St. John Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS Montreal, Quebec and other Maritime cities are now most thoroughly equipped for export and import trade, and whereas the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and its large fleet of steamers and also the Intercolonial Railroad have their eastern terminus at Canadian ports; and

WHEREAS it is expected that the Government in granting charters to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, or to other trans-continental lines, will exact rigid guarantees that only Canadian seaports will be used by such lines, both in winter and summer.

IT IS RESOLVED that the preferential duty rebate of 33 1-3 per cent. now allowed on all merchandise imported from Great

Britain should only apply when such goods are imported into Canada through Canadian ports, which change will greatly stimulate the direct steamship service between Great Britain and Canada, and will also tend to strengthen Canadian National sentiment.

#### DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE.

(13) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT in the opinion of this Congress the various Colonies should undertake to contribute to the expenses of Imperial Defence.

(14) *Montreal Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress hereby affirms the principle that it is the duty of the self-governing Colonies to participate in the cost of the defence of the Empire.

(15) *La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the Colonies having on all occasions willingly done their duty towards the Empire, this Congress is of opinion that by devoting their resources to develop their own resources, increase their population and provide for their self defence, they thereby freely contribute in the most efficient way to the strength and prestige of the Empire.

The Colonies thus claim the privilege of keeping their own initiatives as to the nature and mode of help which they may agree to offer in future to the British Empire.

(16) *Belleville Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that whereas (apart from other and National considerations) the British Navy is as necessary for the security of Canada's Commerce on the high seas as is Marine Insurance;

AND WHEREAS Insurance is provided by Underwriters and maintained through the assessed contributions of all who... it benefits, while the Navy is maintained by the taxes levied on the people of Great Britain and Ireland;

THEREFORE this Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire earnestly expresses the hope that the Dominion of Canada as an integral part of the British Empire, will feel it a moral duty and Imperial obligation to pay a share of or make a contribution to the cost of the maintenance of the Imperial Navy.

#### EMIGRATION TO THE COLONIES.

(17) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT in the interests of the British Empire, and particularly in the interests of the Motherland, measures should be adopted which would direct British capital and emigration to the Colonies rather than to foreign countries.

(18) *Toronto Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the assurance of a constant and ample supply of food to the citizens of the United Kingdom in both peace and war, is a matter of the first importance for the security of the Empire;

IT IS RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress the food supply of Great Britain can be most safely relied upon, by developing the output of her own territories to such an extent as to make her independent of supplies from foreign sources, and that to best achieve this end it is most desirable and necessary to divert, as far as possible, all of her able bodied surplus population who will make useful citizens to the shores of her dominions beyond the seas.

(19) *Northern India Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT the emigration of Coolies from India to British Colonies under restrictions enforcing return to India is of advantage both to India and to the Colonies.

#### FOREIGN TREATIES AND TARIFFS.

(20) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT in the opinion of this Congress all treaties between Great Britain and foreign countries should leave Great Britain free to enter into such relations with the Colonies and Dependencies as might be deemed expedient.

(21) *Paris (British) Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT the Congress desires to express its approval of the resolution adopted by the last Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, also unanimously approved by the Autumnal Meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, held in Paris, September, 1900, to the effect that His Majesty's Government should take immediate steps in conjunction with the Governments of the Colonies interested, in order to obtain for British Colonies most favoured nation treatment from those countries which have granted most-favoured-nation treatment to the United Kingdom, and against which the Colonies are not discriminating in the application of their Customs Tariff.

(22) *Paris (British) Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT the Foreign Office be requested to address representations to the French Government with a view to obtaining that goods coming on a through bill of lading via a British port, from a British Colony which has no direct service with France be considered by the French Customs as coming direct, and admitted free of the *surcharge d'entrepot*, i.e. of the special tax which is imposed in addition to the Customs Duty upon goods of extra-European origin coming into France through a European port other than a French port.

#### BOUNTIES.

(23) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that this Congress favors the principle of Countervailing Duties in such cases where an unfair state of competition has been created by the granting of bounties to foreign producers by their respective governments.

#### CONSULAR SERVICE.

(24) *Barnsley Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT in the opinion of this Congress it is urgently necessary in the interests of the Commerce of the British Empire—

1. That His Majesty's Government should resolutely maintain and extend our Commercial Treaty rights.

2. That the Consular Service should be re-organized and strengthened on lines calculated to make it more effective for the promotion of the trade of the British Empire.

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Foreign Secretary, the Prime Minister, and the Colonial Secretary.

(25) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT while the present consular service of the Empire is to be commended, this Congress is of opinion that it should be made to have it supplemented by the establishment of Intercolonial Commercial Councils, and that the standing of those should be recognized by the British Consuls throughout the Empire.

(26) *La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the Imperial Government be requested to recognize, if necessary, to foreign governments, the commercial agents appointed by the Colonies and to confer upon them sufficient attributions and necessary powers to protect the commercial interests of the said Colonies.

#### LIGHT DUES.

(27) *Cardiff Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT the Congress take the necessary steps to again call the attention of the British Government to the desirability of abolishing the Light Dues in accordance with the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon Steamship Subsidies which was recently published.

#### IMPERIAL POSTAL SYSTEM.

(28) *Birmingham Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress, having had under its consideration the following resolution adopted at the conference held in June, July, and August, 1902, between His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Prime Ministers of the self-governing Colonies of the British Empire, namely:—

"THAT it is advisable to adopt the principal of cheap postage between the different parts of the British Empire on all newspapers and periodicals published therein, and the Prime Ministers desire to draw the attention of His Majesty's Government to the question of a reduction in the outgoing rate."

Hereby expresses its hearty concurrence therewith; and is further of opinion having regard to the extensive circulation of American newspapers, magazines and periodicals in Canada in consequence of the low bulk rates charged for their transmission by the United States Postal Authorities, and to the important fact that the rates for the mailing of such publications from Canada to the United Kingdom have recently been assimilated to the rates in force within the Dominion, that the Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom should, in the interests of British Trade and Commerce, take special steps with the least possible delay to reciprocate the action of the Canadian Government.

(29) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT this Congress would view with favour the establishment throughout the Empire of an Imperial Postage System, not only on letters but on all printed matter and parcels.

(30) *Ottawa Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the interchange of publications between the Mother Country and the Colonies tends to strengthen the bonds of Empire;

AND WHEREAS existing arrangements favour the introduction into Canada of United States rather than of British publications;

IT IS RESOLVED that it should be the aim of Imperial statesmanship to overcome the anomaly, and to endeavour to reach an arrangement which would make it possible for British publications to compete on even terms with foreign papers.

(31) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT this Congress is of opinion that facilities should be arranged whereby news to and from the different parts of the Empire should be transmitted entirely through British channels, and not subject us at present to the censorship and influence of foreigners.

(32) *Montreal Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the freer interchange between the peoples of the Empire, of the newspapers and periodicals published therein would do much to strengthen Imperial unity and that association of ideas and aims upon which such unity must be based;

THAT such interchange would be largely promoted by a reduction of the postal charges on such matter;

THAT this Congress therefore prays His Majesty's Government to reduce to the domestic rate the charge on newspapers and periodicals published in the United Kingdom and posted to the Colonies; and this Congress also urges those Colonies which have not already done so, to make a similar reduction in postal rates on their publications.

#### FAST STEAMSHIP SERVICES.

(33) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT this Congress would view with favour the establishment of a fast steamship service between the various ports of the Empire and the encouraging in every possible way of shipment by British vessels.

(34) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress strongly urges that a fast line of steamers, with Government assistance, should be placed on the Atlantic between the United Kingdom and Canada, to form a British line of communication from one part of the Empire to another.

(35) *Dublin Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress confirms the sentiment of this, the Chamber of Commerce of the Metropolis of Ireland, and cordially welcomes the prospect of an Atlantic line of steamers between Canada and Great Britain via an Irish port, and believes that such a service would tend greatly towards the development of Commerce between the Dominion and this country.

(36) *Montreal Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress considers it of the utmost importance to the interests

of the Empire that the United Kingdom and her Colonies should adopt a policy under which lines of steamships will be secured and retained for (1) the provision of fast mail services on the several routes; and (2) the development and control of trade between the Mother Country and her possessions, and between the Colonies themselves.

(37) *Halifax Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that it is in the interest of the Empire that direct mail services be maintained between the United Kingdom and the Colonies, so that British mails may, as far as possible, be carried in British ships, direct between British ports.

FURTHER RESOLVED that in pursuance of this policy, the British and Canadian Governments be asked to contribute adequate subsidies towards the inauguration and maintenance of a first-class mail service between Canada and the United Kingdom, so that our transatlantic mails may no longer be carried via foreign ports, as the bulk of them are at present.

(38) *Liverpool Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress is strongly of opinion that a fast steamship service between Canada and the United Kingdom will be of the greatest use in developing trade between the two countries; and, further, that the port of Liverpool, being the original and largest distributing centre of the United Kingdom for Canadian produce, appears to be the most suitable terminal port of England for such service.

(39) *Quebec Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the question of direct and fast steamship service, both on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, is of the most urgent importance in the commercial contest between the British Empire and foreign countries.

RESOLVED that this Congress considers it of the utmost importance to the interests of the Empire that the Mother Country and the Colonies should adopt as soon as possible a policy under which, by subsidies or otherwise, fast lines of steamships will be secured and retained for the development and control of trade between the British Kingdom and her possessions, and between the Colonies themselves, and for the provision of good and rapid mail service.

#### METRIC SYSTEM.

(40) *Birmingham Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress, having had under its consideration the following resolution adopted at the Conference held in London during the months of June, July and August, 1892, between His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Prime Ministers of the self-governing colonies of the British Empire, namely:—

"THAT it is advisable to adopt the metric system of weights and measures for use within the Empire, and the Prime Minister urges the governments represented at this Conference to give consideration to the question of its early adoption."

Hereby expresses its hearty concurrence therewith, and urges upon the Government of the United Kingdom the necessity for legislative measures being taken in the interests of British trade and commerce to make the use of metric weights and measures compulsory.

(41) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that in support of the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber passed at the Fourth Congress, viz:—

"THAT this Congress is of opinion that the Metric System of Weights and Measures should, as recommended by a select committee of Parliament in 1885, be legalized in all parts of the Empire (excepting India) for all purposes, and after a period of two years be everywhere rendered compulsory by act or ordinance; and that meanwhile the system should be thoroughly taught in all public elementary schools as a necessary branch of arithmetic."

The Vancouver Board of Trade desires to more:—

"THAT this Congress is of opinion that in order to simplify work and to promote international uniformity, it is desirable that the Metric System of Weights and Measures be adopted throughout the Empire, (excepting India) and rendered compulsory within two years by act or ordinance, and that copies of this resolution be sent to His Majesty's Government and to the governments of the several Colonies, with the urgent request that the matter receive their early consideration."

(42) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT the Congress strongly recommends the adoption of a decimal currency and of the metric system of weights and measures, together with a universal gauge for defining the thickness of metals.

(43) *Cardiff Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT taking into consideration the strongly expressed opinion of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, and of the recent Conference of Colonial Premiers in London last summer in favour of a decimal system of weights and measures and coinage, this Congress again urges upon the British Government the advisability of its compulsory adoption in all parts of the Empire in the interest of trade and commerce between the Colonies and the Mother Country.

(44) *Quebec Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the Metric System of Weights and Measures is much preferable to the present confused and irrational systems, or rather want of system, throughout the Empire;

WHEREAS the entire Metric System, with its single unit meeting every possible case and all expressed in decimals, is a great deal more simple and logical than our irregular system;

WHEREAS its superiority could not help being acknowledged; WHEREAS it has already been adopted by a large number of countries;

RESOLVED that this Congress favor the exclusive use of the Metric System of Weights and Measures in the whole British Empire.

(45) *La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montréal*.—IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress favors the application throughout the Empire of the "Metric System."

(46) *La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montréal*.—IT IS RESOLVED that this Congress favors the adoption throughout the Empire of the "Decimal System of Currency" which already answers all commercial purposes.

(47) *Halifax Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS the Metric System of Weights and Measures has been adopted generally in Europe and in the Republics of South America, and has manifest advantages over other systems at present in use.

THEREFORE IT RESOLVES that this conference recommends and urges the adoption of the Metric System of Weights and Measures in Great Britain, and in other parts of the Empire.

#### COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' LICENSES.

(48) *Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT as Great Britain imposes no license on commercial travellers representing Colonial Houses, this Congress is of opinion that commercial travellers representing British Houses should be free from impost of license when travelling in the Colonies.

#### RESOURCES OF THE EMPIRE.

(49) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT an Imperial Commission consisting of representatives from Great Britain and self-governing Colonies be appointed to visit all parts of the Empire and prepare a report pointing out the resources of the various portions of the Empire and how they may best serve the interests of the whole.

(50) *Winnipeg Board of Trade*.—THAT there are in the British Colonies natural resources, if properly developed, sufficient to provide the food supply for the Empire.

#### IMPERIAL CONTRACTS.

(51) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT, in the opinion of this Congress, in all contracts for Imperial public works the preference should be given, as far as possible, to British subjects.

#### NEWFOUNDLAND.

(52) *Hellerville Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that to fully round out and complete Canadian Confederation and to strengthen Imperial Unity, it is in the opinion of this Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, essential that Newfoundland should be included as a constituent part of the Dominion of Canada. The present is an opportune time to enter upon negotiations leading to this result in view of the pending treaty between Newfoundland and the United States, and the friendly relations now existing between France and Great Britain, and the probable disposition on the part of France to settle for all time matters so long in dispute respecting the French shore. It is, in the opinion of this Congress, a matter of Imperial importance that our intact Atlantic Seaboard should be thus permanently secured.

#### TITLE TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

(53) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association*.—THAT if the large tracts of land, such as Baffin Land, Prince Albert Land, etc., situated to the North of Canada, are not at the present time part of the Dominion of Canada, or of the Empire, and held with a clear title, steps should at once be taken to have the possession established.

#### NATURALIZATION LAWS.

(54) *Toronto Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress the Naturalization Laws of the several parts of the Empire should be so unified so as to secure uniformity of action which has been duly naturalized in any part of the Empire, and that a British subject wherever the flag of the Empire is entitled to the full rights and privileges of a native-born.

(55) *Kaslo Board of Trade*.—THAT the laws respecting the naturalization of aliens in the different constituent parts of the British Empire should be amended and assimilated so that citizenship conferred in any part of the Empire shall be recognized as valid throughout the Empire.

#### COPYRIGHT.

(56) *Toronto Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the Parliament has the same right to make its own laws on the subject of copyright as on the other subjects within its jurisdiction enumerated in Section 91 of the British North American Act, and that without the absolute and unqualified recognition of this right by the Imperial authorities the status of Canada as a self-governing colony is incomplete.

#### TRADE MARKS.

(57) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT taking into consideration the resolutions which have for some years been unanimously adopted by the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom and the resolution which was adopted at the last Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire calling upon the British Government to grant facilities for a full enquiry into the unsatisfactory working of the present laws relating to the registration of Trade Marks;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Imperial Government be strongly urged to afford without further delay a full enquiry into the unsatisfactory state of the said laws and the administration thereof with a view to early legislation thereon;

That in the opinion of this Congress it is highly desirable that His Majesty's Government should take such steps as will secure the early adoption by the Government of British India, of laws for the registration of Trade Marks within its jurisdiction;

That His Majesty's Government be requested to make such representations to and to use its influence with the respective



authorities as will lead to the adoption of uniform laws for the registration and protection of Trade Marks throughout the whole of the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Empire.

#### PATENT LAW ADMINISTRATION.

(58) *Manchester Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress, impressed by the difficulties arising from the diverse systems of patent law administration in the various parts of the Empire, and the heavy cumulative cost of securing patent rights therein, recommended to all Chambers (1) that they should severally consider the question of assimilating such law and administration and reducing the cost; and (2) that the result of their deliberations hereupon be forwarded to the Manchester Chamber before the end of the present year, with a view to the preparation of a scheme of reform to be afterwards submitted to each constituent Chamber for its approval.

#### CODIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL LAW OF THE EMPIRE.

(59) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT no definite solution having been arrived at by the British Government on the resolution adopted by the Fourth Congress in 1900 on this matter, it be an instruction from this Congress to its component Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce to approach the Governments of the respective participating Colonies and of the United Kingdom, with a view to representations being made to the Home Government through the Colonial Premiers and the representative Associations in the Mother Country, in order that, before the date of the next Congress, at least one branch of commercial law may be codified.

(60) *Bellerive Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress of Chambers of Commerce, the codification and assimilation of all Commercial Laws within the Empire, is desirable, not merely for the economic convenience of trade and the stable security of commerce, but also in order to encourage the interchange of business among the most distant parts, to promote the unity of Empire, and so far as possible and practicable to promote the unity of language for commercial purposes within the Empire, wherever British trade is found and the British flag flies.

#### IMPORTATION OF CANADIAN CATTLE INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

(61) *St. John Board of Trade*.—THAT the present restrictions on the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain are unjust, so far as they may be claimed to be based on the dread of disease existing among such cattle, since any outbreak of disease is as rigidly guarded against in Canada as in the Mother Country, and no infectious distemper exists; and that such restrictions are also impolitic, since, while they may appear to be imposed under pretext of the dread of disease, the more apparent reason is the protection of a class of stock breeders who have no right to claim a monopoly of the kind; and the result is an interference with the free development of trade, a serious decline in the cattle exports of Canada, and a decreased supply and increased cost to the British consumer.

(62) *Brantford Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress the embargo that at present exists against Canadian live cattle in Great Britain is unjust and unwarranted, and should be speedily removed.

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture for Great Britain.

(63) *Liverpool Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT in view of an embargo being again placed by His Majesty's Government on Argentine Cattle, the City of Liverpool and District Butchers' Association fear that the food of the people will be considerably enhanced in price, and that thereby many work-people will be thrown out of employment. It is hoped, therefore, that the Dominion Government will use its powerful influence with the Home Government to relieve Canada of the embargo now placed upon Canadian Store Cattle.

#### WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

(64) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress is of opinion that the Commercial and Shipping Interests of the Empire would be materially assisted if all lighthouses and lightships were fitted with apparatus for wireless telegraphy; and that this, while adding greatly to the security of the ships of the mercantile marine, would be of great benefit to passengers by all the chief steamship lines, as well as to His Majesty's Navy throughout the world.

#### COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

(65) *Liverpool Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT this Congress is of opinion that the utmost effort should be made throughout the Empire to encourage and furnish facilities for Commercial Education as a branch of technical and scientific study, and that the Home and Colonial Governments be asked to give special grants in aid thereof, and, further, the Congress is of opinion that Chambers of Commerce should be represented on Boards of Education, in order to advance the interests of Commercial Education.

(66) *Bellerive Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the Commercial Education of young men destined for business careers, throughout the whole British Empire, is a subject requiring the supporting care and active encouragement of all Legislatures, Universities, Colleges and Schools—especially in view of the prominence given to such educational development in Germany and other commercial rivals of Great Britain—in order that, not merely by the study of modern languages, but also by the practical fitting of the brightest British minds for the world's commercial work by a proper system of scientific accounting and business methods, we may as a nation be fully equipped with our fellow citizens ready and capable to manage the complicated machinery of the world's competitive commerce.

(67) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that this Congress strongly endorses the resolution passed at the Fourth Con-

gress in favour of Technical and Commercial Education throughout the Empire, viz:—

"That it is most desirous to take steps to urge the extension of Technical and Commercial Education throughout the Empire, and that wherever possible this education should be placed under public control; that this Congress is of opinion that the utmost effort should be made throughout the Empire to encourage and furnish facilities for Commercial Education as a branch of Technical and Scientific study, and that the Home and Colonial Governments be moved to give grants in aid thereof, equal in amount to those bestowed on other science and art schools, and further, that it is very desirable that Chambers of Commerce should be represented on Boards of Education in order to advance the interests of Commercial Education."

#### TRADE DISPUTES.

(68) *Bellerive Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the present strained relations between capital and labour, involving disastrous results to trade and commerce, demand legislative and executive action, and that in addition to all possible facilities for conciliation being afforded, enactments should be passed:

(a) Requiring the incorporation and registration of all labour unions so that they may be responsible for their acts.

(b) The prohibiting within British Dominions of interference by alien agitators.

(c) The insuring of the stability of contract.

(d) The more effective prevention of acts of violence in connection with strikes.

(e) The securing of personal freedom and the individual right to work.

(69) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that the Vancouver Board of Trade desired to move:—

"THAT this Congress is of opinion that it is desirable that suitable legislation be enacted throughout the Empire for the purpose of preventing sudden strikes of workmen, especially in all cases where the operation of public utilities is involved."

#### RAILWAY COMMUNICATION.

(70) *Bellerive Board of Trade*.—IT IS RESOLVED that the Trans-continental Railways of Canada—those existing and those projected—are in the opinion of this Congress, for the general advantage not merely of Canada, but of the Empire, and should receive Imperial support and consideration in any proposed plan of Imperial Federation, not merely on the ground that they furnish rapid and effective modes of transportation of troops and munitions of war for Imperial Defence, but also on the ground that they form the chief land links in the chain of British commerce, and are the inlets to and outlets from the granary of the Empire and essential to the future food supply of Great Britain.

#### ALASKA BOUNDARY.

(71) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that in the opinion of this Congress a final settlement of the Alaska Boundary question is very desirable in order to remove any possibility of friction, and to promote the development of the great territories on both sides of the line.

#### BRITISH INTERESTS IN THE FAR EAST.

(72) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED that this Congress endorses the Leeds resolution adopted at the Fourth Congress, viz:—

"THAT in view of the steps now being taken by the various countries of Europe to open out the interior of China to trade and commerce, it is the opinion of this Congress that the Government should endeavour by every means in its power, to protect the interests of the British Trader, to assist him in obtaining concessions and to afford him all reasonable securities against disturbance from the Chinese Government or aggression from foreign powers."

And further suggests:—

"THAT His Majesty's Government be urged to use every effort to secure facilities for assisting British Traders in Manchuria, Korea and Siberia, and to collect and make public all available information in furtherance of this project."

(73) *Winnipeg Board of Trade*.—WHEREAS China is opening her doors more freely to the commerce of the world, and there is every reason to believe that a great development will take place in her foreign trade.

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the opinion of this Congress that Great Britain, Canada and other Colonies of the Empire should take steps to keep informed of openings for trade with that country, and should be prepared to take advantage of all such trade openings presenting themselves.

#### CANADIAN BANKRUPTCY LAW.

(74) *Vancouver Board of Trade*.—RESOLVED, that this Congress strongly endorses the recommendation of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce by its special resolution of December, 1900, and January, 1902, regarding the desirability of a Dominion Bankruptcy Law being enacted with the least possible delay.

#### LONDON CLAUSE IN BILLS OF LADING.

(75) *London Chamber of Commerce*.—THAT representation be made to the Canadian S.S. Lines to discontinue the insertion of the London Clause in Bills of Lading, on the ground that no Clause imposing charges on goods should be inserted in Bills of Lading other than for freight."



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Membership 214,000. Accumulated Funds, \$6,800,000. Now Paying to Widows and Orphans nearly \$7,000 per day. Adding to Surplus Accumulations over \$1,000,000 per year.

**THE TORONTO DAILY STAR, IN COMMENTING UPON THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS, IN ITS ISSUE OF MARCH 28th, 1903, SAYS AS FOLLOWS:**

"The figures which tell accurately of the operations of that great fraternal society, the Independent Order of Foresters, during 1902 show that the institution is gaining not only very rapidly in numerical strength, but that it is also becoming every year a safer institution in which to insure. Its financial strength is yearly increasing much more rapidly than its obligations. During 1902 it increased its membership 13,283. The number of new members initiated in 1902 was over 100 per month greater than the number initiated in 1901. The death rate was only 6.60 per thousand, a fraction less than the year before. Its average age is only 36. These two facts show the great care that the Order exercises in the selection of risks. The accumulated funds increased during 1902 by \$967,239.65. It is still more important, however, to note that while these figures indicate a betterment in assets of 18.19%, the increase in premium income of the Order during the year 1902 over 1901 was 8.37%, while the demands upon that income for the purpose of meeting claims was only 1% greater in 1902 than in 1901. This is a showing that is creditable and satisfactory."

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Or. JOHN A. McGILLIVRAY, K.C., Supreme Secretary.**



TOWN OF PHOENIX, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SHOWING COMPANY'S MINES SITUATED TO LEFT OF PHOTOGRAPH.

## The Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting & Power Co., Limited.

**MINES : Phoenix, B. C., Canada.**

Comprising 350 acres, equipped with 60 Drill electrically driven Compressor Plant, and reserve Steam-driven plant of 40 Drills, Steam Shovel for open quarry work, Crushers, etc. Capacity 2500 tons rock per day, employing 350 Miners.

### Smelting and Converting Plant :

GRAND FORKS, B. C., CANADA.

Consisting of six furnaces, and two stands of Converters. Capacity 2,500 tons Ore per day. Blister Copper product marketed in New York, amounting to about two million pounds per month. Men employed about plant, 250.

### Board of Directors.

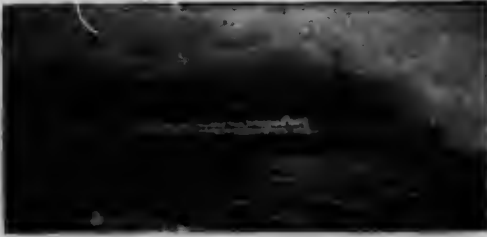
S. H. C. MINER, President, Granby, Que., Canada.  
 JAY P. GRAVES, Vice-President, Grand Forks, B. C., Canada.  
 A. C. FLUMERFELT, Assistant to Pres. " " "  
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**HEAD OFFICE : MONTREAL, CAN.**



COMPANY'S SMELTING AND CONVERTING PLANT, GRAND FORKS, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

# ALLAN LINE



The Allan Line Twin-screw Steamer "Tunislan."

These fine new steamers sail **Weekly** to Liverpool from Montreal calling at Londonderry.

The steamers are amongst the largest and finest in the Transatlantic trade and are excellently fitted in the accommodation for all classes of passengers. The Saloons and Staterooms are amidsips, where least motion is felt, and bilge keels have been fitted to all the steamers, which has reduced the rolling motion to the minimum. The vessels are also fitted with Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy.

Electric lights are in use throughout the ships, and the cabins have all the comforts of modern first-class hotels. The cuisine is unsurpassed.

The hour of sailing is arranged to make connection with trains arriving from the West and South. No expense for transfer of baggage.

The distance on the Atlantic is almost 1000 miles shorter via this route than it is from United States ports. The scenery in the River and Gulf makes this the picturesque route between America and Europe.

## RECORD PASSAGES.

**TUNISIAN** left Rimouski August 2nd, 9.00 a.m., and arrived at Moville August 6th, 9.00 p.m. (1903). Deducting 3 hours difference in time. Time of passage, 6 days, 7 hours.

**BAVARIAN** (twin steamer to Tunisian (10,375 tons), made 20 miles per hour on trial trip. Time of passage, Rimouski to Moville, via Cape Race, 6 days, 15 hours, 17 minutes.

**PARISIAN** sailed from Rimouski Sunday, Oct. 10th, 10.15 a.m., and arrived at Moville Sunday, Oct. 17th, 7.30 a.m. Deducting difference in time, 6 hours, 30 minutes, the actual time of passage was 6 days, 16 hours, 50 minutes.

For rates or further particulars apply to any Agent of the Company.

H & A. ALLAN, Montreal.

## St. Lawrence Route Royal Mail Steamers MONTREAL AND QUEBEC TO LIVERPOOL

Calling at Moville, Londonderry

<b>VICTORIAN</b> (Building)	Twin Screws,	12,000 Tons
<b>TUNISIAN</b> ,	Twin Screws,	10,575 Tons
<b>BAVARIAN</b> ,	Twin Screws,	10,375 Tons
<b>IONIAN</b> , New,	Twin Screws,	9,000 Tons
<b>CORINTHIAN</b> ,	- - - - -	8,500 Tons
<b>SICILIAN</b> ,	- - - - -	8,500 Tons
<b>PRETORIAN</b> ,	- - - - -	8,300 Tons
<b>PARISIAN</b> ,	- - - - -	8,500 Tons

1903	PROPOSED SUMMER SAILINGS	1903
FROM LIVERPOOL	SUBJECT TO CHANGE	FROM MONTREAL
STEAMERS	STEAMERS	STEAMERS
FROM LIVERPOOL	STEAMERS	FROM MONTREAL
2nd Aug.	<b>TUNISIAN</b> ... Sat. 5 Sept. 5.30	Sat. 5 Sept. 2.00
27 "	<b>PARISIAN</b> ... 12 " 5.30	" 13 " 6.30
3 Sept.	<b>PRETORIAN</b> ... 19 " 6.00	" 19 " 10.00
10 "	<b>BAVARIAN</b> ... 21 " 6.00	" 26 " 6.30
17 "	<b>IONIAN</b> ... 3 Oct. 6.00	" 3 Oct. 10.00
24 "	<b>TUNISIAN</b> ... 10 " 6.00	" 10 " 3.30
1 Oct.	<b>PARISIAN</b> ... 17 " 9.00	" 17 " 10.00
8 "	<b>PRETORIAN</b> ... 24 " 6.00	" 24 " 6.00
15 "	<b>BAVARIAN</b> ... 31 " 8.00	" 31 " 9.30
22 "	<b>IONIAN</b> ... 7 Nov. 7.00	" 7 Nov. 3.00
29 "	<b>TUNISIAN</b> ... 14 " 7.30	" 14 " 9.00
6 Nov.	<b>PARISIAN</b> ... 21 " 7.30	" 21 " 3.00

# DOMINION LINE

## FAST TWIN SCREW PASSENGER AND FREIGHT STEAMERS

**Montreal and Quebec to Liverpool**

**Montreal and Quebec to Bristol (Avonmouth)**

**Halifax to Liverpool**

**Boston to Liverpool, via Queenstown**

**Portland, Me. to Liverpool**

**Portland, Me. to Bristol (Avonmouth)**

## FLEET OF STEAMERS.

PASSENGER			FREIGHT		
<b>S.S. COLUMBUS</b> ,	Twin Screw	15,000 Tons	<b>S.S. NORSEMAN</b> ,	Twin Screw	11,700 Tons
<b>S.S. COMMONWEALTH</b> ,	Twin Screw	13,000 "	<b>S.S. IRISHMAN</b> ,	Twin Screw	11,700 "
<b>S.S. MAYFLOWER</b> ,	Twin Screw	13,000 "	<b>S.S. TURCOMAN</b> ,	Twin Screw	7,000 "
<b>S.S. NEW ENGLAND</b> ,	Twin Screw	11,400 "	<b>S.S. ENGLISHMAN</b> ,	Twin Screw	6,500 "
<b>S.S. CANADA</b> ,	Twin Screw	10,000 "	<b>S.S. NOMADIC</b> ,	Twin Screw	5,749 "
<b>S.S. LABRADOR</b> (Building)	Twin Screw	10,000 "	<b>S.S. TAURIC</b> ,	Twin Screw	5,728 "
<b>S.S. KENSINGTON</b> ,	Twin Screw	8,669 "	<b>S.S. OTTOMAN</b> ,		5,000 "
<b>S.S. SOUTHWARK</b> ,	Twin Screw	8,607 "	<b>S.S. MAXMAN</b> ,		5,000 "
<b>S.S. DOMINION</b> ,	Twin Screw	6,618 "	<b>S.S. ROMAN</b> ,		5,000 "
<b>S.S. CAMBROMAN</b> ,		5,500 "			
<b>S.S. VANCOUVER</b> ,		5,300 "			

"S.S. CANADA" holds record for fastest passage between England and Canada.

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**DOMINION LINE, 17 St. Sacramento St., MONTREAL**



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**London and Lancashire Life  
Assurance Company**

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MEN OF AFFAIRS**

Believe that Life Insurance is indispensable.

*A policy-holder in the LONDON & LANCASHIRE LIFE, one of the most heavily insured men in America, reasoned thus under 5 headings*

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*A good policy in a reliable company is a source of wealth and comfort.*

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**6 ST. SACRAMENT STREET  
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# THE QUEBEC BANK

Founded 1818. Incorporated 1882.

**HEAD OFFICE, - - QUEBEC.**

Capital Authorized, \$3,000,000

Capital Paid-up, - 2,500,000

Res., - - - - 900,000

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JOHN T. ROSS, Esq., Vice-President  
GABRIEL LEMOINE W. A. MARSH VERNY ROWELL  
F. BILLINGSLEY EDSON FITCH  
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RAILWAY'S  
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Sleeping Cars affords the most comfortable journey to  
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WHERE CONNECTION IS MADE FOR ALL POINTS IN

Ontario, the Canadian Northwest and  
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**The Intercolonial Railway's Facilities for the Handling  
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**BIG  
GAME**

*The immense tracts of forest lands in the Provinces  
of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, shelter  
the moose, caribou and deer, while the rivers and  
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