

C. That provision should be made throughout the Empire for the reciprocal admission of barristers to practice, and in particular that the mere fact that in any dependency the two branches of the profession are amalgamated should not be a bar to the admission of barristers of that dependency to practise in England or elsewhere.

D. That the law as to naturalisation should be uniform throughout the Empire, and that naturalisation, wherever granted, should be Imperial and not local, subject however to the right of any self-governing dependency to impose special conditions if it thinks fit.

E. That the question of an increased contribution by the Australasian Colonies to the Australasian-New Zealand Squadron should be considered, together with other matters respecting colonial defence.

F. That in the interests of the dominion in the Pacific the Government of these dominions should be consulted before any convention or agreement respecting the Pacific islands is entered into between the Imperial Government and any foreign country.

G. That a uniform practice should be adopted in connection with the reservation of Bills for the Royal assent, and that in the case of the self-governing dependencies the Royal Instructions on the subject are too restrictive, and should be modified.

H. That reciprocity should be established between the respective Governments and examining authorities throughout the Empire with regard to the examination and authorisation of land surveyors, so that any surveyor who has properly complied with the tests and conditions prescribed by the Imperial Government or the Government of any self-governing dependency, and has fully received the requisite authority to enable him to act as a surveyor, should be enabled to practise his profession in any other part of the Empire, subject only to his satisfying the Government or examining authority of the country in which he desires to practise of his knowledge of the necessary local Acts or regulations which may be in force therein relating to the survey of land therein.

I. That all doubts should be removed as to the right of the self-governing dependencies to make reciprocal and preferential fiscal agreements with each other and with the United Kingdom, and further that such right should not be fettered by Imperial treaties or conventions without their concurrence.

J. That in view of the enormous social and political advantages, and the very material commercial advantages to accrue from a system of international penny postage, and of the further fact that any depression in postal revenue resulting from the adoption of such a system has now been proved to be only temporary in duration and inconsiderable in amount, this Conference recommends to His Majesty's Government the advisability of approaching the Governments of those States, members of the Universal Postal Union, which have hitherto declined to agree either to an interchange of letters at one-penny rate for the minimum weight or to the receipt of letters from abroad at the same rate, with a view to a more general, and, if possible, a universal adoption of that rate.

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(No. 97.)

MY LORD,—

Government House, Wellington, 7th November, 1906.

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that the New Zealand parliamentary session came to an end on the 29th October.

2. A Bill to make provision for Customs reciprocity between this colony and South Africa was amongst those to which I was asked to assent in His Majesty's name.

3. In accordance with the Royal Instructions, VI, (4), I informed my Government that I proposed to reserve this Bill for His Majesty's assent. My Prime Minister then wrote me a memorandum (copy of which is enclosed) requesting me to assent to the Bill, since an urgent necessity existed that it should be brought into immediate operation.

4. As I was satisfied that the Bill was urgent, and that similar Bills had been agreed to elsewhere, I signed it, but I take the earliest opportunity of bringing the matter before you, in case, upon consideration, Your Lordship should disagree with my action.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

PLUNKET.

Enclosure.

Prime Minister's Office, Wellington, 29th October, 1906.

Memorandum for His Excellency.

THE Premier presents his compliments, and respectfully begs to advise His Excellency that an urgent necessity exists requiring that "The New Zealand and South African Customs Duties Reciprocity Act, 1906," be brought into immediate operation, and will be glad if the Governor will signify his assent thereto at once.

J. G. WARD.