

Third Day.
18 April 1907.

FUTURE
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
CONFERENCE.

Mr. DEAKIN : You do not want the whole phrase over again. It is sufficient to say "representatives of the Dominions and the Mother Country."

CHAIRMAN : I was using the former words.

Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL : Representatives of the Dominions concerned ?

Mr. DEAKIN : That is good.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : I should like to have an opportunity of considering the wording when it is copied out.

CHAIRMAN : I have no objection to that so long as it is not published.

Mr. DEAKIN : I think Sir Wilfrid Laurier is entitled to make that suggestion, but hope it will be finished to-day, and that the *précis* can be published which the Press did not have yesterday.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : As to this drafting of the resolution, if the wording is accepted I am quite satisfied, but before giving it to the public I should like to have further opportunity of considering it. I am not so ready to give information to the Press as Mr. Deakin seems to be. *Festina lente* is a good maxim. I would like to defer this. I am not satisfied as to the words "Dominions beyond the Seas." It is a good expression, but I do not know that it is correct as it is used here, and I should like to see it in a corrected draft. I do not know that it may not include Trinidad as well as Australia and Canada. It is not limited, so far as I can see, to the self-governing Colonies.

CHAIRMAN : That is what is meant in the first place.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : Yes.

Sir JOSEPH WARD : Why not use the words "self-governing Colonies" ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : Or "self-governing Dominions beyond the Seas" ? As drafted, it seems to me it would as well apply to Trinidad or Barbados as to Canada.

CHAIRMAN : I think we will have to introduce the words "self-governing."

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : I would like to use some expression which would make a differentiation between the self-governing Colonies and the other Colonies. So far as the Colonies represented here are concerned, I wish we could drop the word "Colonies" and try to invent something which would strike the imagination more.

Mr. DEAKIN : Certainly; if anybody can do that it is you, Sir Wilfrid.

Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL : I understand Sir Wilfrid Laurier would like to have a fair copy of the resolution to consider.