

Thirteenth Day.
8 May 1907.
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Mr. LLOYD GEORGE : I wish you could, I must say; it does not bind you to uniformity, beyond what is practicable, and it is left to you to legislate.

Mr. DEAKIN : I have no objection.

Dr. SMARTT : Your contention, Mr. Lloyd George, is that if an author takes out a copyright in England, he should be protected in all British Colonies.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE : He could only be protected by your own laws.

Dr. SMARTT : Our laws should protect him, and you would mutually protect our authors.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE : Certainly.

Dr. SMARTT : I am altogether in favour of it.

Mr. F. R. MOOR : So am I.

Dr. SMARTT : That is what we are pleading for.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE : And you have a growing interest in it because your literature grows. Would Sir Wilfrid object to the resolution?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : At present I would. If the Minister of Agriculture, who, strange to say, has the matter in his hands, were here he perhaps would have a different opinion, but in his absence I would not like to deal with it. It has been a contentious subject with us for years, and certain sections of the Labour Party with us have taken a very strong position with regard to it.

Dr. SMARTT : Could you not let it stand over?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER : We cannot attempt to reform everything at this Conference; leave something for the next Conference.

TRADE STATISTICS.

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CHAIRMAN : Trade statistics.

Resolution XIV.,
p. ix.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE : I move here : " That it is desirable, so far as circumstances permit, to secure greater uniformity in the trade statistics of the Empire, and that the Note prepared on this subject by the Imperial Government be commended to the consideration of the various Governments represented at this Conference." I am not going to take up time over that; the memorandum has been circulated and I think we have all agreed that it is very desirable that there should be uniformity of trade statistics.

Mr. F. R. MOOR : That is some work for your secretariat.