

We may, perhaps, have more hope of good results in the Imperial and Colonial Conferences, even though some expectations of Empire consolidation and policy have not been realised, and some not yet even discussed by the Conferences hitherto held; yet it must be acknowledged that some good results have been accomplished, and a better understanding and appreciation of the political strength of the colonies to the Empire have been arrived at, chiefly by the forceful and practical efforts of Canadian statesmen, even though some idealists call these results minor or isolated matters of Empire policy. The more frequently these Conferences can be held the more potential and effective will be their influence in developing constitutional precedents which by a process of constitutional evolution may ultimately become an engrafted and effective authority as an Imperial Council for Empire Affairs, and a recognised and essential political power in our constitutional system of Government.

VI.

From the Honourable Justice George M. Johnson, St. John's, Newfoundland:—

If it be a postulate that the creation of a Council of our widespread Empire is a necessity, it is an axiom that its counsels must to a great extent be ineffectual unless some effective system of intercommunication be established. That intercommunication must be free not only between the representatives in the Council, but free also (on all matters which are of vital interest to any section) between the individual constituents or electors represented.

VII.

From the Honourable P. A. Landry, Judge of the Supreme Court, New Brunswick:—

I have no hesitation in arriving at the conclusion that the scheme is in the best interests of the Empire, if the details can be worked out. The subject is very important. My best wishes are with you and its promoters for its success.

VIII.

From the Honourable N. H. Meagher, Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia:—

Any movement tending to make the English people and those of our sister colonies better acquainted with Canada, her climate, her productive capacity, and the tempting inducement she holds out to capital and energy, her spirited people, and her wise laws should have the hearty support of every Canadian. I understand that one feature of the intended movement involves an endeavour to accomplish the foregoing, and therefore I wish it success.

IX.

From the Honourable Benjamin Russell, Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia:—

I have read your letters, and hasten to say that I am in entire accord with every word in them, and thank you sincerely for giving me the opportunity to read them.

X.

From the Honourable William Wilfrid Sullivan, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island:—

I have read your letters with much interest, and I desire to say that I fully share your views with regard to the advantage which the Empire would derive from the operations of such an Intelligence Department.

XI.

From the Honourable Edward C. Wetmore, Judge of the Supreme Court, Saskatchewan:—

Your views with respect to the organization of an Intelligence Department and an inter-Imperial cable service are entirely in accord with my own views.

I venture to suggest, however, whether it would not be a good plan to establish in various parts of the Empire local Councils consisting in each place of persons living fairly close together who might meet at stated times and devise means and ways by which Imperial federation might be fostered and brought about. These Councils could exchange views with each other, and it seems to me, would be of assistance in attaining the desired object. I am very much in favour of Imperial federation, or the unification of the Empire.

Group C.—Principals and other Heads of Universities and Colleges.

I.

From the Reverend S. G. Bland, D.D., Principal, Wesley College, Winnipeg:—

The ideas you advance seem to me entirely wise. The first thing to be secured for the development and strengthening of Imperial unity is that the various parts of the Empire should be brought to know each other better. Out of that will come a deeper sympathy. That sympathy is the essential thing, whether it give birth to an Imperial Council or find a better organ in consultation among the Premiers. But that is a question which one need not precipitately settle. The first need is fuller and closer intimacy, and to this probably nothing would contribute so effectively as a free Press cable service around the world.

II.

From the Reverend N. Burwash, D.D., LL.D., Chancellor of Victoria College, Toronto:—

I have been greatly interested in what you and other prominent citizens have been doing in the great work of the unification of the Empire. There is no doubt that our people require as yet a great deal of information and education with regard to the creation of a Council of the Empire.