

The following gracious reply, from His Majesty, was received and read by the Chairman at the close of the proceedings:—

“ I appreciate very much the message which the representatives of the Governments of the British Commonwealth have sent to me on the termination of the Ottawa Conference. The Queen and I thank them all most sincerely for their expression of devotion and good wishes. Your work has been arduous and intricate, but I rejoice to think that your achievement has justified the high expectations with which the Conference began, and that you have been able not only to conclude important practical agreements for the promotion of trade within the British Empire, but also to adopt principles to help its future development.

“ I am confident that the results of your labours, and the spirit of co-operation and mutual helpfulness which has brought about their success, will be of real benefit to my peoples.

“ I wish you all Godspeed, and a safe and happy journey homeward.

GEORGE R.I.”