AN IMPERIAL COMMONWEALTH

Sir Robert Borden's Visit to England.

Fifty years ago the proposals for a Confederation had just been submitted to the people of British North America, and in 1866 the statesmen of the colonies assembled in London to settle with the Imperial Government upon the terms of the agreement which was to establish the Dominion of Canada. They accomplished their mission. The scattered and disunited colonies were withdrawn together and the new community was endowed with the largest powers of self-government. By effecting this result the London meeting in 1866 completed one stage in the development of the British Empire. A household had been set up within the Empire, managing its own affairs. When Australia and South Africa were prepared in like manner to direct their own concerns they followed the precedent set in 1866, and secured from the Imperial Government their free constitutions.

The Growth of Empire.

Yet, the establishment of these Dominions, while certainly a milestone in the progress of the Empire, left a long road still to travel. The new communities took charge of their local affairs, but they had as yet no voice in conducting the business common to the whole Empire. Such common concerns were left to the Government at Westminster. It administered the great dependencies, it conducted the foreign policy of the Empire, it decided finally upon peace or war, it retained a final authority over all parts of the British Commonwealth. The authority of the Dominions was thus restricted within certain boundaries; and a citizen of Canada enjoyed a less ample prerogative than a citizen of the United Kingdom, since the latter alone elected the representatives who determined the ultimate issues for the whole Empire. This difference could not be permanent. The Dominions once in control over their own business moved inevitably towards a larger participation in the business common to the Empire. Hence the 50 years since Confederation have witnessed a series of meetings in London no less significant than that of 1866. Colonial statesmen have visited the Metropolis of the Empire to take part in Imperial Councils and gradually to assume a share in Imperial responsibilities. The Fathers of Confederation have been followed by the Premiers of Canada, Sir John Thompson, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and now Sir Robert Borden.

The Imperial Conferences.

Suitable occasions for the meeting of the Empire's counsellors were provided by such great Imperial ceremonies as the Jubilee of 1887, the Diamond Jubilee of 1879 and the Coronation of 1902, attended by representatives of every community subject to the British Throne. These in the outward aspect typified for great multitudes of Imperial citizens better than any other agency the unity and variety of the mighty State to which they belong. They also served to bring together around a council board British Ministers and representatives of the Dominions. The Colonial Conference first assembled in 1897 and developed into the Imperial Conference of 1902, 1907 and 1911, as it became firmly established. The scope of its meetings widened. From discussing trade and communications the representatives of the Dominions went on to consider Imperial Citizenship and Imperial Defence Schemes for common defence were submitted to them, and, though not always adopted, conveyed a lesson in Imperial patriotism. In 1911 the foreign policy of the Empire, which justified common preparations for defence, was disclosed to the statesmen of the Dominion. It is true that they were not asked to join in shaping the policy, still they were given every opportunity of studying it, and such a schooling could have only one ultimate purpose and result, that of preparing them for their part in an Imperial Government which would determine the foreign policy of the Empire.

All the Doors Thrown Open.

Meanwhile the Imperial Defence Committee was taking shape in order to co-ordinate the defensive arrangements of the Empire and upon it Colonial Ministers were allotted their place. It was only an advisory body to the British Cabinet, yet its membership was so representative and important as to give its decisions great weight. It proved really an antechamber to the Cabinet; those who gained admittance to it were close to the innermost councils of the Empire. Finally, the great war threw all the doors open. It showed as no logic would have done, how decisions taken at Westminster affected the lives and property of British citizens everywhere. It proved the quality of those citizens beyond the seas who were not yet full partners in the Commonwealth. It showed that their strength and goodwill were necessary to the safety of the common flag. It placed upon their shoulders a share of the burden and found them able and glad to carry the load. It made necessary their participation in any settlement which would follow the struggle and in all subsequent policy. It opened the way for the Dominions into the Imperial Cabinet. Sir Robert Borden, the Prime Minister of Canada, the first of the Dominion Ministers to visit England since the beginning of the war, was invited to attend a session of the Cabinet.

The Final Authority.

A journey by Sir Robert Borden to England at this time was natural and proper. He wished to inspect Canadian troops whether in training camps or at the front, to cheer his wounded fellow countrymen, to discuss with the Imperial authorities the measures which all parts of the Empire should adopt in discharge of the common obligation. His presence in London was a sign to our friends and our enemies of the unanimity of the Empire. Still the most significant episode in his visit was the invitation to attend a meeting of the Cabinet. All the other functions he could have discharged and yet have made no advance beyond his predecessors in shaping the institutions of the Empire. Other episodes during his stay were certainly more dramatic, the meeting with the rulers of the Allies, the visit to the Canadian battery in France, the great review of our soldiers at Shorncliffe. Yet no incident compared in importance with the gathering of a few civilians, unheralded, unattended, surrounded by no pomp or ceremony, to discuss around a table in Whitehall the common business of all the millions of their fellow-citizens. No colonial had ever before entered this Council Chamber. The final authority which the Cabinet exercised had not been shared with any citizen of the Empire from beyond the seas. There now remained no council of the Empire from which a representative of the Dominions should be kept aloof. One by one the ante-chambers had been opened. Now a colonial stood in the inmost room. All the arcana imperii were open before him. The limits to his autonomy had been passed. He could now feel himself to be, in as complete a sense as anyone else, a citizen of his world-wide state.

An Imperial Cabinet.

It is true that the Prime Minister of Canada attended the meeting of the Cabinet by invitation, through the courtesy of the British Government. He was enjoying a privilege, not exercising a right. The distinction is immaterial. What matters is that a representative of the Dominions shared in the final council of the Empire. His right to be present will never be urged. There will be no need of urging it, since no one will call it in question. His presence on one great occasion is a sufficient precedent. We proceed in our British way from fact to fact, rather than from one claim to another. The fact is unassailable. All the counsels of the Empire were disclosed to a representative of a Dominion in person. Sir Robert Borden may not attend another Cabinet meeting during this visit. It would be difficult indeed to make such attendance a practice. A visitor could only catch snatches of the business passing before the Cabinet. The one case is enough. It has accustomed British people everywhere to the idea that the deliberations of the Imperial Government, which affect all the Empire, can and must be shared with representatives of the Empire overseas. The idea will take shape much more quickly than we should have thought possible a few months ago, in a Cabinet truly Imperial, not restricted to citizens of the United Kingdom, but including representatives from all the Dominions.

Common to the Empire.

The invitation to Sir Robert Borden has prepared the way for the formation of such a body which will deal with matters common to the whole British Commonwealth. The work of the Fathers of Confederation will then be complete. They gave Canada control over her local affairs, but those concerns which affected Canada together with the rest of the Empire were still left in the care of the Imperial Government. Canada will now have a voice in determining the policies which in any way affect her and will at the same time participate in the Government of the Empire as a whole. The meeting of 1866 led inevitably to the meeting of 1915. The Imperial convention such as must follow the war will crown the efforts of all the Canadian statesmen who since the Confederation of Canada have joined in securing for their country her true place in the British Commonwealth.

The Fruit of St. Julien.

That Canada should come to her full stature in these days is a natural consequence of the glorious part which she continues to play in the great war. The heroism of her sons could have no other outcome. Together with Australians, New Zealanders and their fellow subjects from the dependencies they have given their lives for an ideal. The ideal is in one sense Canadian, for it includes a devotion to their own country; and yet it is broader and more comprehensive than a purely Canadian patriotism. It is a conception, vague enough in form, but powerful in its effects, of a vast community which we call the British Empire embracing many races and creeds, but at peace with itself, strong, but not brutal, united and yet tolerant towards all the different elements within, and towards the nations outside it, large enough to be free from envy and bitterness. How their conception should be expressed in constitutional forms may have concerned these heroes little. They died for much that was real, but much also that was a hope or an aspiration. It remains for those of their fellow-citizens who are responsible for the conduct of our common affairs to give shape to their ideal through the necessary institutions and laws.

Sir Robert Borden's attendance at the Imperial Cabinet is a sign that the statesmen of the Empire will not shrink from this duty. St. Julien quickly bore fruit. The Premier of Canada moved into that council chamber escorted by his mighty dead. They will attend him and other leaders of Canadian opinion until the Commonwealth for which they laid down their lives is well and firmly established. Like the Athenians over whose graves Pericles spoke, "They gave their bodies to the Commonwealth and received each for his own memory, praise that will never die, and with it the grandest of all sepulchres, not that in which their mortal bones are laid, but a home in the minds of men, where their glory remains fresh to stir to speech or action as the occasion comes by. For the whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone over their native earth, but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives."

IN CAPTURED WARSAW

The picture shows the famous "Regimental Church" in Warsaw.

Parasols were used by the ancient Egyptians.

Ninety-seven out of every hundred words in the English Bible are of Anglo-Saxon origin.

In after years the perusal of a love letter that he wrote his wife before marriage makes a man feel like a lead nickel with a hole in it.

"I believe our climate is changing." "Think so." "Our winters seem to be getting warmer." "Well, the women wouldn't wear enough clothes. The climate had to change. The women wouldn't."

About the Household

Dainty Dishes.

Tomatoes Fried in Cream.—This is a German dish. Peel and cut fresh tomatoes into thick slices if tomatoes are large, or if small let them remain whole. Season, flour, saute in hot butter, then sift a little more flour over them (if needed) and add a cup of cream. Stew all together until the cream is thickened and the tomatoes are well cooked.

Orange Mint Salad.—Sprinkle the carefully skinned and divided pulp of four oranges with two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar, two tablespoonfuls of finely chopped, fresh mint leaves and one tablespoonful of lemon juice. Chill thoroughly and serve in glasses ornamented with sprigs of mint. If the oranges are very juicy, pour off a portion of the juice before serving.

Fruit Charlotte.—Use what fruits in season you like best. Make individual cases of light puff pastry. Whip up two cups of thick cream, sweeten and flavor to taste and have the fruit ready, raw or stewed. Put a layer of fruit in the case, then a layer of cream, then more fruit and top with cream. Decorate with bit of cherry or other bright fruit.

Apple Cake.—For apple cake sift a pint of flour with a teaspoonful and a half of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Add two tablespoonfuls of butter, rubbing it in thoroughly, and then add a beaten egg and milk enough to make a thick batter. Spread the batter in a buttered tin to the thickness of an inch. Over the top spread quarters or eights of peeled and cored apples, and sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Bake in a hot oven.

Cream of Rice Soup. — Rinse two tablespoonfuls of rice in a sieve under running water. Drop into a pint of boiling slightly salted water and boil for 20 minutes. Then add a quart of scalded rich milk. When it boils add two teaspoonfuls of cornstarch rubbed smooth in a little smooth milk, a teaspoonful of salt and onion juice and pepper to taste. Two teaspoonfuls of grated cheese may also be added and will much improve the flavor to most tastes. Cook for three minutes and then add a teaspoonful of butter and serve.

Lemon Rice Pudding.—Wash three-fourths of a cup of rice and put into a double boiler with three cups of boiling water, adding more water if needed. The rice should take up all this water. When cooked set aside to cool. Add three lightly beaten yolks of eggs, salt, a bit of butter and three tablespoonfuls of sugar, grated rind of lemon and milk enough to make very moist. Bake forty-five minutes. Beat whites with liberal half-cup of granulated sugar until stiff, add juice of one lemon, spread over pudding, and brown slowly.

Carrot Soup.—Two cups of peeled and chopped carrots, one-fourth cup of rice, two cups of scalded milk, two cups of water, two slices of onion, two tablespoonfuls of flour, four tablespoonfuls of butter, sprig of parsley, one and one-half teaspoonfuls of salt, pepper to taste. Cook carrots in water until tender. Press through sieve, saving liquid. Cook rice in milk in double boiler. Cook onion in butter, add flour and seasonings. Mix carrot pulp and liquid with rice and milk, and pour upon butter and flour. Bring to boiling point, drain and serve. If too thick, thin with cream or milk. Garnish with chopped parsley.

Leg of Mutton in Blanket.—Make deep, narrow gashes in the thick end of a clean leg of mutton. Crowd in a mixed seasoning of salt, red and black pepper. Add a little minced onion, a little dry mustard and powdered herbs. Brush all over with melted butter or soft bacon fat. Then sprinkle lightly with salt, set on a rack in a roasting pan. Put in a very hot oven. Let brown, then rub over it a tart jelly melted in a little hot water and envelop in a crust of flour and water, made very stiff and rolled half an inch thick. Pinch the edges tight together, lay back in the pan, cover and bake in a hot oven. Take up, break the blanket carefully, lift out the meat and pour the gravy from the envelope into a small saucepan. Add to it either hot claret or a spoonful of tart jelly, a drop or two of tabasco, boil up and serve in a boat.

Household Hints.

Slice tomatoes with a bread knife with saw teeth.

Wash yellowed linens and bleach them in the sun.

Never put away a garment in need of mending.

Wrap cheese in a cloth moistened with vinegar if you would keep it moist and free from mold.

Lunch sets of large and small doilies are one of the best ways out of the tyranny of the tablecloth.

Use milk instead of water for making pie crust, which is to be served cold. It will keep crisp longer.

If rice and vegetables have to stand after cooking, it is best to cover them with a cloth under the lid to absorb the steam and keep them from becoming sodden.

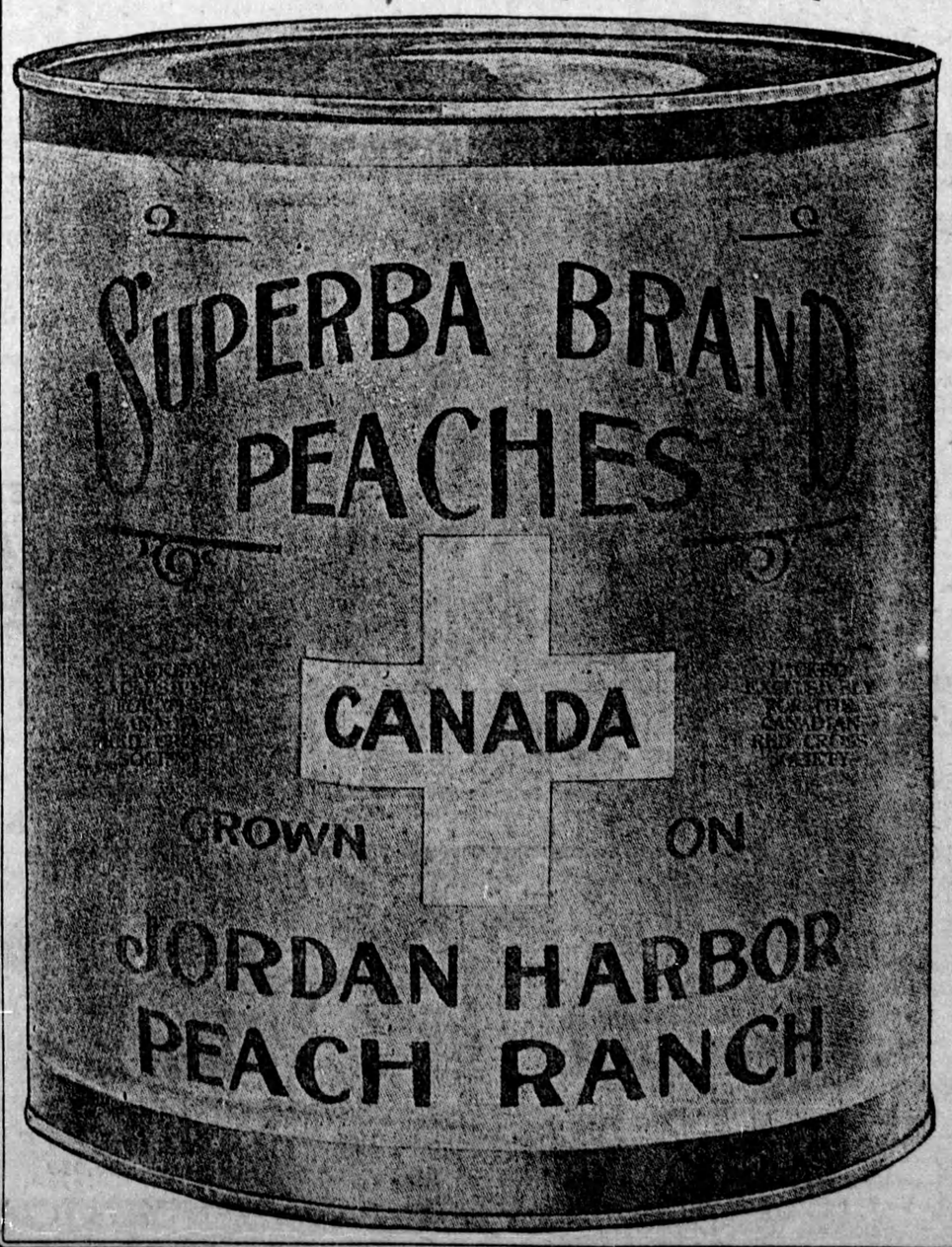
To utilize the tops of old stockings and also prevent the color of your preserved fruits from darkening, wash the tops and draw them over the jars after sealing the fruit in them.

A milky jug should always be rinsed in cold water before being washed in hot. If the hot water is used first, the curd becomes set and the surface is not so easily cleansed.

Fold a piece of emery paper in the centre and draw the knife rapidly back and forth several times, turning it from side to side. This is an excellent sharpener for paring knives.

A Tremendous Offering of Peaches to the

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



THE JORDAN HARBOR PEACH RANCH WILL COMMENCE SEPTEMBER 1ST TO PACK AND SHIP 100,000 GALLON HOSPITAL SIZE SANITARY CANS, EACH CONTAINING 6½ TO 7 LBS. OF SUPERB BRAND PEACHES FOR DISTRIBUTION THROUGH THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY TO OVERSEAS HOSPITALS IN BRITISH ISLES, FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

This undertaking is of such magnitude, representing fifty car loads of **FRESH FRUITS** and the employment of over Two Hundred men and women during the **PEACH SEASON, PACKING DAILY 5,000 LARGE HOSPITAL CANS.**

These peaches are peeled, pitted and halved, then packed in large HOSPITAL SANITARY CANS, in **HEAVY SYRUP, then crated** (six cans in each crate), to be forwarded to destination through the **CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.** The total cost is **FIFTY CENTS per CAN (50c).** this charge includes all expenses. These fruits are packed **EXCLUSIVELY** for the **CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY AND CANNOT BE PURCHASED** by the **GENERAL PUBLIC,** as they are prepared and delivered to the **CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY AT ACTUAL COST.**

By remitting **50 Cents** through the **CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY,** or direct to the **JORDAN HARBOR PEACH RANCH, JORDAN STATION P.O.,** Ontario, it insures one of these **Large Cans of BEAUTIFUL SUPERBA BRAND PEACHES** going forward to our sick and wounded soldiers.

Don't delay in accepting this **OPPORTUNITY. THESE FRUITS** are **URGENTLY NEEDED** and will be much appreciated by our **Gallant Defenders.**

All SUBSCRIPTIONS will be duly acknowledged, and should be completed by **September 1st. Remit now.**

Contributions are being received from all parts of Canada. **THINK OF OUR SICK AND WOUNDED DEFENDERS IN OVERSEAS' HOSPITALS. It's UP TO YOU TO "DO YOUR BIT" AT ONCE. WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?**