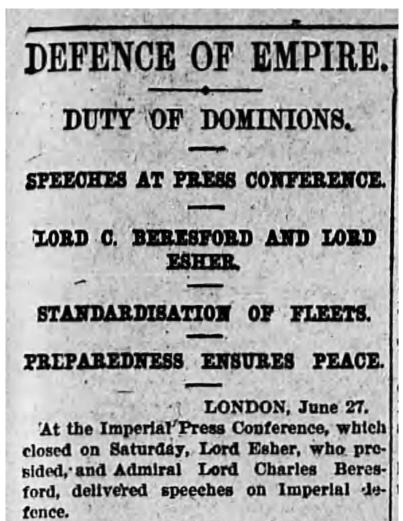
Editor. (Jun. 28, 1909). DEFENCE OF EMPIRE, p. 7. Sydney Morning Herald.

GO TO FULL TEXT TRANSCRIPTION, p. 9



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The military problem, Lord Esher continued, could be summed up in three words—a general staff, whereby the personnel and the materiel of war would be standardised throughout the Empire.

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PRESS CONFERENCE.

REDUCTION OF CABLE RATES.

PACIFIC BOARD'S OFFER.

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The Hon. H. Lawson (London "Daily Telegraph") presided.

The conference appointed a standing committee, and a deputation to urge upon Mr. Asquith to take steps to bring about a general reduction of cable rates.

Another resolution advocated the establishment of wireless telegraphy stations in the east and the south.

Another resolution dealt with a grievance of Indian newspapers, whose rates are as high as New Zealand, and with a grievance of Ceylon, whose rates are a halfpenny more.

It was announced that the Pacific Cable Board had decided to reduce its proportion of the charge by one-half to 21d, and that New Zealand would reduce its proportion by a halfpenny, making an immediate reduction in press messages between England and New Zealand 9d a word. It is expected that Australia would lower the land charge by a halfpenny, which would reduce Australian press messages via the Pacific cable to 81d a word.



It is also expected that if Atlantic companies and Canadian land lines make reductions they will be devoted to lowering the press rates.

Mr. Marconi said that he was most confident of belief that by August he would transmit 15,000 words daily between Ireland and Canada, and would send press messages across the Atlantic at 21d, possibly at 2d, a word, against the present 5d a word.

Mr. Marconi continued that he had every hope that his system would embrace the whole Empire. Already there were installations from Italy to Argentina, and if successful he hoped to instal his system from England to the Cape, and from the Cape to Capada.

Canadian delegates proposed a resolution favouring a State-owned system of electric communication between England and Canada to Vancouver, thus completing the State service from England *cross Canada to Australia.

Mr. G. Fenwick (Dunedin) strongly supported the Canadian proposal. He claimed that the Pacific cable was already a great success, but it would never be a complete success till State ownership of cable lines was established to England.

Mr. G. Lukin (Wellington), Mr. M. Cohen (Dunedin), Mr. T. Fink (Melbourne), and Mr. T. Temperley (Ballina) also supported the proposal.

Some Australian delegates questioned the propriety of State competition unless existing interests were fairly treated.

The motion was carried.

A similar resolution was adopted in relation to South Africa.

CLOSE OF CONFERENCE.

LONDON, June 27.

The conference closed on Saturday, when the question of Imperial defence was further considered.

RISKS OF COMPRESSION.

SOURCE OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

The "Times" writes that the value of the offer of the Pacific Cable Company is enhanced by the patriotic action of New Zealand, and there is good reason to anticipate that the reductions will thoroughly justify themselves from a business standpoint.

The "Times" hopes that private companies will grant a similar reduction of cable messages, as the transmission of news in a nutshell is fertile in the creation of misunderstandings.

LADY LANSDOWNE'S RECEPTION.

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WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY, AN IMPERIAL SYSTEM, p. 7. *Sydney Morning Herald*.



https://www.newspapers.com/image/124472

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1909.

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FULL TRANSCRIPT

Sydney Morning Herald, Monday, June 28, 1909, Page 7

DEFENCE OF EMPIRE.

DUTY OF DOMINIONS.

SPEECHES AT PRESS CONFERENCE.

LORD C. BERESFORD AND LORD ESHER.

STANDARDISATION OF FLEETS.

PREPAREDNESS ENSURE PEACE.

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[Rosebery, Rhodes heir, radical imperialist; Chamberlain, Milner, Rhodes proponent of 2nd Boer War; Seeley, radical liberal imperialist]

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[Note: On Jul. 31, 1909, Prime Minister Asquith formed two Sub Committees on Home Defence (MI5) and Colonial Defence (MI6) reporting directly to him as the prime minister and free to recruit experts like participants in the Imperial Press Conference just concluded and its "permanent body" the Empire Press Union.]





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A STATESMAN WANTED

A BOLD POLICY ESSENTIAL

LONDON, June 26 [, 1909]

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Lord Milner added: "The occasion calls for a bold constructive policy. The more courageous and comprehensive the proposals advanced by the Home Government, the greater their chances of success."

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