

# THE EMPIRE PRESS UNION.

At the conclusion of the Imperial Press Conference held in London last June it was the unanimous wish of the delegates from overseas that a permanent organization should be formed to carry on the work commenced at the conference, and accordingly their committee conferred with several of the proprietors and editors of the British Press with a view to carrying the idea into effect.

The memorandum and articles have now been drawn up and submitted for the approval of the Board of Trade, and subject thereto will be duly registered under the name of the Empire Press Union.

As agreed at the meetings, the various Dominions and Colonies will form their own committees, which will enrol members from the daily newspapers in each part of the Empire. It was, however, unanimously agreed that the headquarters should be in London, where a secretary has already been engaged, and an office in a central position is to be taken.

The first council consists of Lord Burnham (president), Lord Northcliffe (hon. treasurer), Mr. C. Arthur Pearson (chairman), Sir John Arnott, Mr. Moberly Bell, Mr. Robert Donald, Mr. Kennedy Jones, Mr. H. L. W. Lawson, Mr. C. D. Leng, Mr. Ernest Parke, Sir George Riddell, Mr. C. P. Scott, and Mr. J. A. Spender, with power to add to their number. Mr. Harry E. Brittain, who filled the position of hon. secretary to the Imperial Press Conference, has agreed to act in the same capacity and help in the organization of the permanent body.

It may be remembered that as the result of the work of the conference various important concessions were made by the cable companies in the reduction of the rates for Press messages to the Colonies.

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The Pacific Cable Board led the way in the reduction of rates by notifying their willingness to agree to a 25 per cent. reduction to Australia and New Zealand—from ls. a word to 9d. a word. Messages by this All-Red Route cross the Atlantic and Canada, and reach Australasia by means of the Pacific cable, which is owned jointly by Canada, New Zealand, and Australia, and Great Britain.

This action, so promptly initiated by the Pacific Cable Board, was followed by an announcement from the Eastern Telegraph Company notifying reductions in the Press rate to those parts of the British Empire served by their cables.

These reductions were:—India and Burma, from ls. a word to 9d.; Ceylon, from ls. 0 d. a word to 9d.; Ceylon, from ls. 0 d. a word to 9d.; Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, from ls. a word to 9d.; Cape Colony, Natal, Orange River Colony, and Transvaal, to 9d.; Southern Rhodesia, to 9d.; Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, to 10dd.; Beira Railway offices (via Cape), to 9dd.; and Portuguese Zambesi (via Cape), to 10dd. a word.

The Cable Sub-Committee of the Imperial Press Conference, which was composed of leading representatives of the Press of Great and Greater Britain, and which opened negotiations so satisfactorily with the cable companies, will become part of the Empire Press Union.

It will be the duty of the Empire Press Union to carry on the work begun by the conference, and endeavour in every way to obtain for the newspapers throughout the Empire a better and fuller news service.

All daily papers (or other newspapers which may be nominated by the committee of any section) in the Empire will be eligible and may nominate one member. In addition there will be associate members, who must be proposed by a member and be engaged in the work of publishing a daily paper. Such associate member will not, however, be entitled to vote at the meetings.

Members of the union will have the right of nominating a representative to the next conference, to be held in 1912, and at all ensuing conferences.

#### **TRANSCRIPTION**

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The Pacific Cable Board led the way in the reduction of rates by notifying their willingness to agree a 25 per cent. reduction to Australia and New Zealand - from Is. (one shilling [12 pence]) a word to 3d (three pence) a word. Messages by this All-Red Route cross the Atlantic and Canada, and reach Australasia by means of the Pacific cable, which is owned jointly by Canada, New Zealand, and Australia, and Great Britain.

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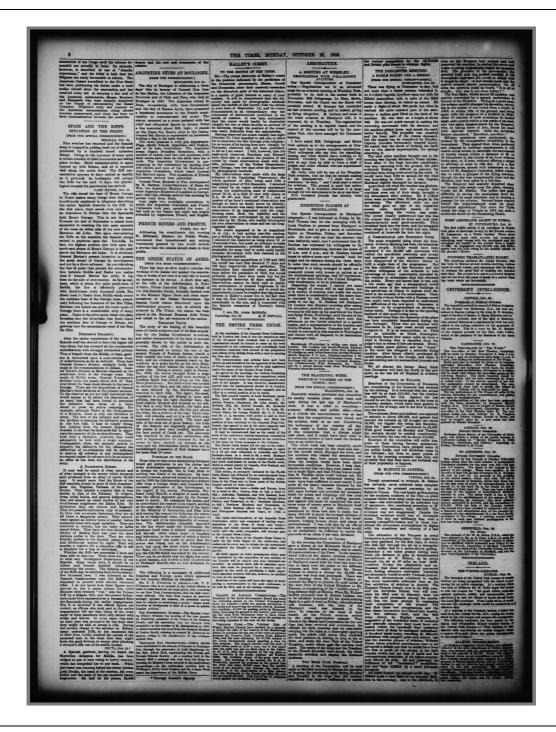
These reductions were: - India and Burma, from 1s. a world to 9d.; Ceylon, from 1s. a world to 9 1/2d.; Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, from 1s. a word to 9d.; Cape Colony, Natal, Orange River Colony, and Transvaal, to 9d.; Southern Rhodesia, to 9 1/2d.; Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, to 10 1/4d.; Beira Railway offices (via Cape), to 9 1/4d.; and Portuguese Sambeai (via Cape), to 10 1/4d. a word.

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Members of the union will have the right of nominating a representative to the next conference, to be held in 1912, and at all ensuing conferences.









Editor. (Nov. 07, 1909). EMPIRE PRESS UNION HAS BEEN FORMED, Outgrowth of the Newspaper Conference Held in London in June, Cable Rates Reduced [IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE, 1909]. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.









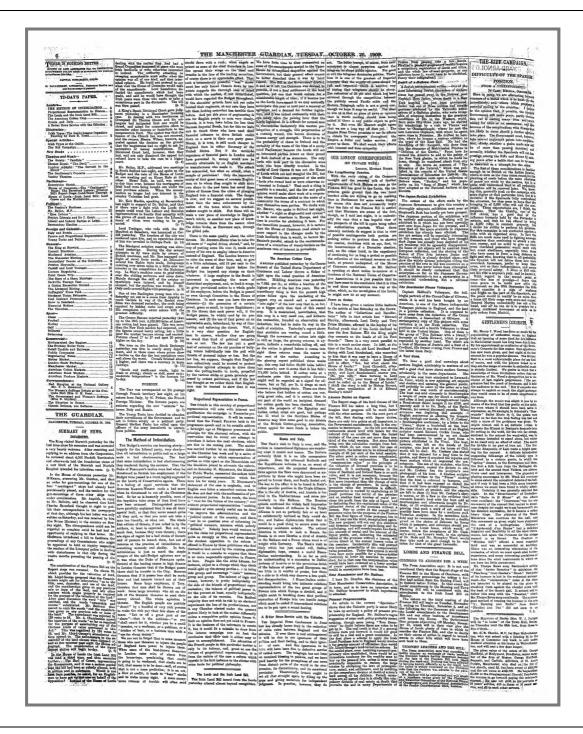
# A Bitler News Service with the Colonies.

THE Imperial Press Conference in June last has already borne fruit in the reduction of cable rates between England and the colonies. If ever there is real estrangement it will be due to our ignorance of their politics and their feeling, and to their ignorof ours. And this ignorance in its turn will have been due to defective service of cabled news. The telegraph has not been an unmixed blessing in politics, and we have paid heavily for the promptness of our news from distant parts of the world in its compression, its discontinuity, and its occasional partiality. Theoretically letters ought to set all that straight again by filling up the gaps and giving materials for independent judgment. In practice, however, they do



# OCTOBER 26, 1909.

The letter (except, of course, from near countries) is almost powerless against the telegram to shape public opinion. or evil the telegram dominates politics. Therefore it is one of the greatest of Imperial interests that the supply of news should be full and impartial which is another way of saying that telegrams should be cheap. The reduction of 25 per cent which has been obtained through the competition between the publicly owned Pacific cable and the Eastern Telegraph cable is not a great one, though we hope it may be useful. The ideal to aim at is that no piece of news or opinion that is worth mailing should miss being cabled if there is any public object to gain by it. But even Mr. HEATON might agree that we are a long way off that yet. The Empire Press Union promises to use its efforts to obtain for newspapers throughout Empire a fuller and better service. power to them. We shall watch their efforts with interest and keen sympathy.





## GERMANY AND BRITISH FEARS.

#### CALM ADVISED.

# PAINFUL IMPRESSION FROM RECENT SPEECHES

#### THE IMPERIAL "WAR COUNCIL"

A "semi-official" communication in the "cologue Gazette" advises Germans to remain cool in face of the feverish Germano-phobia now prevailing in Great Britain and to rely upon the common sense of Englishmen reasserting itself.

The Imperial Press Conference is described by one of the Berlin papers as the "Imperial War Council" and by others as a detice of the British Imperialists for pushing the navy propaganda.

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Editor. (Jun. 11, 1909). GERMANY AND BRITISH FEARS ... THE IMPERIAL "WAR COUNCIL," p.7. *The Guardian* (London).

TRANSCRIPTION:

GERMANY AND BRITISH FEARS.
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PAINFUL IMPRESSION FROM RECENT SPEECHES.
THE IMPERIAL "WAR COUNCIL"

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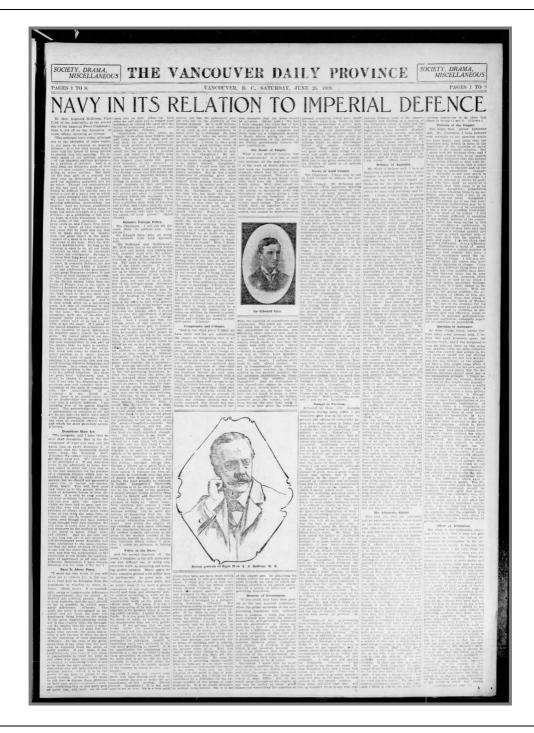
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FEARS.

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\*\* LORD MORLEY. YESTERDAY ## Company of the Com DEBATE ON THE FINANCE TING ON THE BUDGE





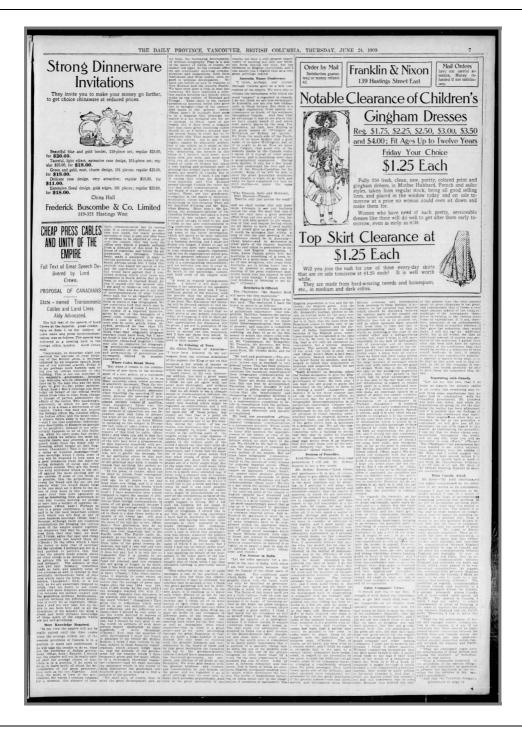


Editor. (Jun. 26, 1909). NAVY IN ITS RELATION TO IMPERIAL DEFENSE ... The Imperial Press Conference, 1909, p.21. *The Province* (Vancouver, BC, Canada.





Editor. (Aug. 05, 1909). IS AN EMPIRE FOR ALL TIME, BRITISH PEOPLE STRONG AND VIRILE, Canadian Journalist's Retrospect of Press Conference and its Results. *Victoria Daily Times*.





Editor. (Jun. 14, 1909). CHEAP PRESS CABLES AND UNITY OF THE EMPIRE, Full Text of Great [Imperial Press Conference, 1909] Speech Delivered by Lord Crewe, Proposal of Canadians, State-owned Transoceanic Cables and Land Lines Ably Advocated. *The Daily Province* (Vancouver).