

row, when it is hoped to meet demands with that issue.

TELEGRAMS

ST. CROIX STATION.

Brussels, September 25th.—The Delegates to the International Financial Congress here in session began consideration of the world's debts and deficits detailed to them by the various countries preliminary to the general discussion of the financial situation which will begin on Monday. The statements presented by the nations at this time dwell upon trade restrictions in various countries and the inability of others to pay for importations with resultant higher prices and abnormal exchange.

Toronto, September 24th.—A striking instance of the far flung line of commerce of the British Empire was given at the closing session of the Ninth Congress of the Chamber of Commerce of the British Empire here yesterday when the thanks of that body were being presented to Lord Desborough, President of the Congress. The resolution of thanks was moved by Mr. Hugh Blain of Toronto and was spoken on by the following: Sir Thomas MacKenzie of New Zealand, Sir Alexander Roberts of Bengal, India, Mr. Wallbach of Pretoria, South Africa, Mr. Geddes Grant of Trinidad, B. W. I. and Mr. Stanley Machin of London. His Lordship said, he hoped the Empire would be more closely knit together than it had been and he promised that the Imperial Council of Commerce would forward the various resolutions adopted during the four deliberations to the different governments represented. He moved a vote of thanks to the Toronto Board of Trade for the hospitality received by the overseas delegates. Mr. Alton of Derby, England, who was one of the speakers in support of this resolution said the great patriotism of the Canadians was a revelation to those of the delegates whose first visit it was to the Dominion. It was recommended that the Imperial Council of Commerce be asked to consider with a view to the reform, contract and bill of lading forms and also uniform laws for trade marks and copyright. The misuse of hall mark etc. was discussed and it was arranged that if an assay office was established in Canada both the goldsmiths company and the silversmiths company will be asked to extend to Canada permission to stamp the British hall mark on Canadian made goods incorporated with a maple leaf for distinction. Conflicting system of weights and measures were discussed. A uniform decimal system of currency was recommended throughout the empire by Mr. Hobson of Sheffield. A resolution to introduce the metric system of weights and measures in the Empire was opposed by Mr. Alton and Mr. Pollim (Halifax Eng). both engineers, on the ground that the metric system would entail the greatest

blow that could be given to the engineering trades. The resolution was carried and certain recommendations will be made to the British Govt. accordingly. Without a dissenting voice the Congress passed a motion, sponsored by the Belleville Chamber of Commerce, to the effect that the operation of public utilities whether by the nation or a municipality should be conducted on a self-supporting basis, and that charges for such services should be sufficient to pay the actual cost of operation without having to make up a deficit by taxation. In the course of vigorous invective against the growing trend in Canada and the United States to extend the field of public ownership, Mr. Belleville, who moved the motion, declared that Toronto would furnish a good illustration of the inefficiency of State control. It will be at least two or three years before you will see any of this improvement in the system the people are talking about," he said, "and I think I can prophesy that the lowest tram fare they will enjoy will be four tickets for 25cts. I think that most of our cities throughout the Empire are maintaining enough charitable institutions at the present time, and admit that public services should be paid for by the people who enjoy the service". A fixed date for the celebration of Easter throughout the Empire was advocated in a resolution, which was carried at yesterday's session. Lord Desborough explained that the Archbishop of Canterbury and 250 Bishops at the Lambeth Conference recently had favoured the terms of the resolution. Mr. Bodington of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris said that France would likely follow suit if the British Empire adopted the recommendation of the congress.

Antigua, Sept. 28th.—H. M. S. "Renown" with H. R. H. the Prince of Wales on board, and escorted by H. M. S. Calcutta anchored at 8.20 a. m. The vessels in the harbour had been gaily decorated with flags and bunting. Punctually at 11 a. m. the Prince and suite landed at the jetty and were received by the Governor Sir Edward Marsh Merewether, the Chief Justice, the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and the members of the executive and legislative councils. After inspecting a guard of honour of the local defence force, the Prince conversed and shook hands with returned soldiers of the B. W. I. Regt. The Prince and party then drove through cheering crowd, to Govt. House along High and East Streets which had been artistically decorated with flags, shields, palms etc. The canopied arch at the corner of High Street and Market Street was draped in white and gold and surmounted by the Prince of Wales feathers. Returning by the same route to the court house, the Prince was presented with an illuminated address of welcome in a casket. The Prince in his reply referred to Nelson refitting at English Harbour before Trafalgar cam-

paign. After leaving the court house he inspected about 1,500 school-children on the Savannah where hearty cheers were accorded him. He returned to Govt. House, where luncheon was served at 1 p.m. A reception was held at Government House at 3 p. m. and an hour later the Prince left on horseback to see a part of the island, motoring to wharf from whence he leaves for "Renown" which sails at 6 p.m. for Bermuda.

St. Thomas News.

The old Mackie tavern at the foot of Pollyberg hill was destroyed by fire early this morning. The general alarm was sounded at 4.45.

One of the first on the scene was Major Sullivan, U. S. M. C., the new chief of the Fire Department, who ably demonstrated his ability in this capacity. Mr. Alexander, the head of the department, was also one of the first comers. He is a hard, fearless and brainy worker and was beyond a doubt the dirtiest man on the job. Every fire makes it more apparent that that enlisted personnel is indispensable.

Two suggestions may not perhaps be out of order. First, the members of the local Fire Department should report to the fire station to man the apparatus instead of at the scene of the fire; and second, the Police could keep the spectators out of the way of the workers, and the hose clear.

Every one, however worked with a will. It will give all a sense of greater security when the new salt water fire main is extended down the main street; with a sufficient length of hose the whole town could be then covered and protected.

The cause of the fire which appears to have started in an adjoining kitchen is being investigated by the police.

We sympathize with Mr. Mackie as his loss is only partly covered by insurance. — *St. Thomas Mail Notes, Sept. 23rd.*

At the Colonial Council's meeting of Thursday, 23rd. inst., infliction of the death penalty for the committal of murder in the first degree, was, by the unanimous voice of the members, condemned and done away with, foremost among its strenuous opponents being members Kean, Robers and Burnet. — *St. Thomas Mail Notes, Sept. 25th.*

There was an automobile collision on Saturday evening around Le Feltjen's Road, when 'bile No. 5, and driven at the time by young Exceinan La Carde, collided with that of the Governor. Luckily, no one was injured. The former, however, was seriously damaged, and now lies at the scene of accident awaiting repairs. — *St. Thomas Mail Notes, 27th. Sept.*