

MANY BRITISH BORN

HAWKES' ADDRESS AT COLUMBIA

HALL LARGELY ATTENDED

SENTIMENTS OF SPEAKER ON RECIPROCITY PACT ENDORSED

In Forceful and Convincing Manner

Hawkes Supports the Policy of

"Canada for Canadians."

In accordance with an announcement made some days ago Arthur Hawkes, Secretary of the Canadian National League, addressed a crowded house at Columbia Hall Tuesday evening. Although the announcement attracted a large number of native born Canadians, the British born predominated, and Mr. Hawkes held his audience throughout the evening. The topic discussed by the speaker was the proposed reciprocity pact as it affects Canadian Imperial interests, and with few exceptions the sentiments of Mr. Hawkes struck a responsive chord in the opinions of those who attended. The speaker was introduced by His Worship Mayor Munro, who suggested that no occasion should arise to interrupt Mr. Hawkes during the course of his remarks.

Mr. Hawkes presented his arguments against the reciprocity pact in a forceful and convincing manner. He dwelt upon the position of the Britisher in the coming Federal election, stating that in many instances the man from the old land did not thoroughly understand local conditions until he had lived here for some considerable time. One characteristic, however, that of Imperialism, always predominated in the hearts of those who came from the old land to make their homes among us.

"The liberal nation," said Mr. Hawkes, "of England has lived for the upholding of the smaller nations. Its policy also is out to make any radical changes without first consulting the people. There has always been a tendency in certain sections to become annexed to the United States. Even the bright Cobden predicted it, but we are thankful that Canada has proved herself a nation that will last for all time. Nations are governed often by great impulses, sometimes unconsciously. There appears to be great wonderment existing in the United States that we are getting along as we are. Many Americans suppose that we are still tied to the apron strings of the mother country, and it was but recently that one remarked: 'Oh! do you have elections in Canada?' I thought your officials were appointed from England.' It is but as recent as 1903 that Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that the construction of a trans-continental railway was projected so that the trade of Canada should not be diverted to the United States. Accordingly, vast sums of money were spent on what if reciprocity passes will be useless.

"Some say that the reciprocity pact is simply bargaining across the boundaries. We have now, however, arrived at that stage in the world's history when nations use commercial arrangements for national aggrandisement. The United States has developed a form of trade which should prove a warning to us. I refer to the trust. Great commercial bodies are endeavoring to gain control of everything. When eight millions of people try to drive a bargain with ninety millions, be careful you are not beaten and beaten to death.

"What then is to be our attitude in the coming struggle between the great political parties. Let Canada work out her own salvation and her own destiny and nationality. It is high time that British born people recognized their duty to Canada. New subjects are constantly entering Canada, and they must be educated along Canadian lines. I submit that there are to-day in Canada upwards of three-quarters of a million of Britons. To fill the want that this vast body must feel the Canadian National League had been formed. Its objects are to promote among those of British birth and origin the sense of Canadian nationality as an increasing power within the empire, by preserving and extending the Canadian and British channels of commerce on which the prosperity has been founded."

At the conclusion of the address the speaker was tendered a hearty vote of thanks on motion of Mayor Munro. He left on the noon train Wednesday for Toronto.