

and the West India sugar preference often intruded themselves into British politics in the years from 1807 to the fiscal revolution of 1846. It would now seem, moreover, that colonial preference is again to find its way into the British tariff.

In *The Empire on the Anvil* (London, Smith, Elder and Company, 1916; xvi, 242 pp.), Mr. Basil Worsfold presents the case for the creation of a federal government for the British Empire. He holds that the war has made it imperative that attention should be turned to the problem of the reconstruction of the administrative system of the empire. Mr. Worsfold points out that the substitution of a federal or dual system for the system under which the British Empire is governed at present would not be to erect an imperialistic system. The very opposite, he says, would be the case. "The present system is imperialistic, since the electorate of a single state (the United Kingdom rules the rest of the empire. But under a federal system, the status of the United Kingdom would be reduced to an equality with that of other component states of the empire, and its sovereign power would be shared by them." Mr. Worsfold is convinced that under a federal system the empire would gain in administrative efficiency. The organized development of its resources under a central government would, he is confident, augment its collective strength for all purposes of peace or war; and the immediate constitutional effect of the change of system would be to convert what is now the empire of a single sovereign state into a free union of states and peoples. Mr. Worsfold boldly faces the great difficulties confronting the organization of the empire on federal lines—difficulties due to wide separation of its component parts, to differences of race and civilization, and to the preëxistence of the imperial authority now centered in the United Kingdom. He also realizes that both the United Kingdom and the oversea dominions would have to make many sacrifices to effect a new imperial organization. But he contends that these sacrifices would be compensated for by the share of imperial unity which would accrue to each of the British communities concerned. One of the serviceable features of Mr. Worsfold's book is the material that he presents concerning larger schemes for closer union of the empire—in particular, concerning the work attempted and accomplished by the Imperial Federation League and also concerning the Colonial Conferences and the Committee of Imperial Defence.

There are at least two reasons for according a hearty welcome to Mr. H. C. Ferraby's *The Imperial British Navy; How the Colonies Began to Think Imperially upon the Needs of the Navy* (London,

Herbert Jenkins, Limited, 1918; 277 pp.). It is in the first place a clear and admirably presented history of the attitude and policies of the self-governing colonies toward responsibility for the naval defense of the Empire. In the next place Mr. Ferraby's timely contribution to the history of the relations of the self-governing colonies with Great Britain seems to suggest that the war has aroused a new and wider interest in colonial autonomy, as beneficently developed in the period from the rebellions in Canada of 1837-8 to the great crisis that confronted the Empire when the Teutonic powers started out on their mission of world conquest in the summer of 1914. Responsible government was conceded to most of the colonies, which are now Dominions, in the years from 1841 to 1854. The history of this concession—the first stage in the new relations of the colonies to Great Britain—has been adequately told. But the other changed relations growing directly out of the concession of responsible government have been singularly neglected by writers on the history of the British Empire; and as far as can be recalled, Mr. Ferraby is the first student of these newer relations to trace with any degree of completeness the way in which the colonies realized and attempted to discharge their responsibilities and obligations with regard to the defense of their own shores. Little was done in this direction before 1887. But between 1887 and 1914 all the colonies in one way or another had made some contribution either to the navy or to the cost of maintaining the navy. Mr. Ferraby's book must soon go to a second edition. In preparing this he will add appreciably to its value if he will show how far the colonies availed themselves of the Cardwell Act of 1865, by which power was given to them to maintain vessels of war, to raise men for service on war vessels; and to legislate for the discipline of men in the colonial naval services. Adderley, in his sympathetic study of the development of responsible government in the colonies, bestowed praise on Cardwell for the act of 1865. But exceedingly little has been written of the use to which the self-governing colonies put the act by which these new powers were conferred on them.

In *The Awakening of an Empire* (London, John Murray, 1917; xxvi, 326 pp.), Mr. Robert Grant Webster, of the Inner Temple, who was a Conservative member in the House of Commons from 1886 to 1899, strongly advocates a return to protection. As he views it, the policy of free trade "lies in a heap of ruins—a monument of broken promises and failure." At times Mr. Webster is a little inexact in his presentation of the fiscal history of the United Kingdom, as, for