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**Proposed Pacific Cable.**

At the meeting of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce and others interested in the proposal to establish a cable via the Pacific held at the Chamber, Exchange, on Thursday evening, Mr. S. A. Joseph, in moving,—"That this meeting is of opinion that in the broadest interest of the British Empire the early establishment of a cable connecting Australasia and Canada across the Pacific, and under British control, is a necessity," after briefly arguing that ocean telegraphy is indispensable to civilization and to commercial life, said: "Hitherto we have enjoyed the advantages of ocean telegraphy through the patriotic energies of our South Australian sister, in laying, at her own expense and risk, a land wire to Port Darwin of nearly 2000 miles, and to the commercial enterprise of private companies, the Eastern and the Eastern Extension companies, who together work about one-third of the cable mileage of the world. South Australia has worked her land line for over 20 years, at a considerable loss to herself, but for the benefit of the other colonies; therefore, in any inter-colonial agreement for a Pacific cable, the interest of South Australia should be especially provided for, whereas, the Eastern and Eastern Extension companies, to whom we are indebted for having introduced to us a luxury which has now become a necessity, have, I am glad to say, reaped the advantage of their enterprise, by earning good dividends and a handsome reserve. These interests naturally ask us, what is a Pacific cable wanted for, while we are serving you well? And our answer is a very plain one. First, from a commercial view. While telegraphy was a luxury, and could only be used by the rich, we were content to pay, as for all luxuries a high price, and also to put up with the risk attached thereto, but now it has become a daily necessity of commercial life we are bound, not only to endeavor, by reducing the cost of messages, to place it within the reach of a much larger number of people, but also ensure to the system that safety and security against interruption which we believe can only be secured by passing our messages over a cable that touches only on British territory, and is absolutely under British control. The question of a duplicate cable across the Pacific, I think, first, took a hold on the public mind when I was in England in 1885-1886 (at the time of the Russian scare), and was subsequently fully discussed at the Colonial Conference held in London in 1887, when a resolution was passed. That the connection of Canada with Australia by a direct submarine telegraph across the Pacific is a project of high importance to the Empire, and every doubt as to its practicability should without delay be set at rest by a thorough and exhaustive survey." Then again at the congress of Australian Chambers of Commerce held in November, 1886, when I had the honor, as your president, to represent this chamber, it was moved and carried unanimously,—"That this congress heartily endorses, both on commercial and strategic grounds, the laying of a submarine telegraphic cable through the Pacific Ocean connecting Australia with the Dominion of Canada and Great Britain, and trust that every effort will be made to hasten the completion of the survey of the ocean floor; it also urges upon the various colonial Governments the advisability of endeavoring, through their Agents-General, to induce the Imperial Government to co-operate promptly in furtherance of the object." There is no doubt that conflicting interests did much to delay these resolutions being carried out with vigor, as evidenced by a protest that was presented to her Majesty's Government by the opposing parties, and which was published in the Times of 19th April, 1894, and it was not until the visit of the Hon. Mackenzie Bowell and Mr. Sandford Fleming in 1893 that Australasia was again aroused to any great interest in the matter. The subsequent Australian Postal and Telegraph Conference held in

Wellington, New Zealand, again unanimously endorsed the proposal for a cable from Vancouver to Australia, and the matter was again taken up by the Ottawa Conference last year, when Mr. Sandford Fleming presented to that conference a very full and exhaustive paper that he had written on the subject at the instance of the Minister of Trade and Commerce of the Dominion of Canada. This paper embraced plans of proposed routes, estimates of costs and revenues, and alternative proposals as to systems to be adopted in construction. This paper was very fully and exhaustively discussed by the conference on the motion of Hon. Mr. Suttor, representing this colony.—"That in the opinion of this conference immediate steps should be taken to provide telegraphic communication by cable under sole British control between the Dominion of Canada and Australasia." The main reasons urged for this Pacific cable, and which this Chamber of Commerce desires to emphasize, are that the existing means of communication by cable either all pass through possible hostile countries or through shallow seas, where it could be easily fished up in time of war, whereas a Pacific cable is free from both these objections and would pass only through lands over which the Union Jack floats. Now in case of war with foreign nations communication with Australia would most likely be interrupted almost immediately, and we can picture to ourselves that the national loss such a catastrophe would involve might in a few weeks be even greater than the whole cost of this cable, even were it undertaken single-handed by Australasia. I shall not further trespass on the very limited time of this meeting by attempting to go into any details as to how this important work can best and speedily be accomplished, but it strikes me that the difficulties to be overcome are comparatively slight compared with the enormous advantages to be derived therefrom. The object of this resolution is to affirm that the work is a necessity to Australasian, Canadian, and Imperial interests, and that consequently it must be carried out with as little delay as possible, and if this meeting, as I feel confident it will do, unanimously adopts this resolution, it will be proposed in a subsequent resolution that we at once memorialize the Government to give immediate effect to it. As a matter of fact, our Government has already practically adopted it, for at the last postal conference held in Hobart as late as February last I find the Hon. Mr. Cook, Postmaster-General of New South Wales, moved and carried the following resolution:—"That this conference reaffirms the desirability of the construction of a Pacific cable, and in view of its ascertained practicability the colonial Governments take steps for the furtherance of the project at the earliest opportunity." Mr. Larke, as agent for the Dominion of Canada, has already stated to you the probable cost of construction and the probable revenue to be derived therefrom, and as his estimates have been prepared with much care and with a very full knowledge of the subject I have no reason to doubt they will be realized. I have, therefore, every confidence that the Pacific cable, when accomplished, will be an unqualified success not only in fostering and increasing our commerce, but by further ensuring the cohesion of the vast British Empire. In conclusion I would merely reiterate that this project has already been the subject of a great deal of talk, but very little action. Conferences and public meetings may pass resolution after resolution, but unless we can put the necessary political machinery to work we can never attain our ends. I rely, therefore, that the committee of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce who have convened this meeting will follow it up with unflinching energy and obtain a promise from the head of the Government that he will, without further delay, take the necessary steps to obtain the immediate co-operation of the Governments of the other Australasian colonies and New Zealand to give practical

effect to the resolutions of the Australian Postal Conference, and thus ensure within a reasonable period a cheap and permanent cable service, touching only on British soil and absolutely under British control.



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**Annual Meeting**

— OF THE —

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July 4th, 1895

**PROGRAMME.**

- 1st—RUNNING RACE  
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1-4 mile dash for Maui bred Ponies 14 hands and under. Catch weights
  - 2nd—RUNNING RACE  
Purse \$150  
1 mile dash, free for all
  - 3rd—TROTTING and PACING TO HARNESS  
Purse \$100  
3 minute class, 1 mile heats, best 2 in 3
  - 4th—RUNNING RACE  
Purse \$50  
(Maiden race) 1-2 mile dash for all Maui bred. Weight for age
  - 5th—RUNNING RACE  
Purse \$50  
(Corinthian race) 1 mile dash. Members of the Association to ride. Welter weights
  - 6th—RUNNING RACE  
Purse \$100  
1-2 mile and repeat for Hawaiian bred horses
  - 7th—RUNNING RACE  
Purse \$100  
3-4 mile dash, free for all
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A. N. KEPOKAI,  
 Secretary Maui Racing Association.  
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