**CST309**

**Reflection**

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**1. Write down a reflection (400 words max) on Minutes of Proceedings of Imperial Conference, 1911 (pg. 394-400) based on what we have discussed in Drawing the Global Color Line (Cambridge University Press, 2008), 1-14. You need to focus on the racial aspect enunciated by Sir J. G. WARD, K.C.M.G., Prime Minister of the Dominion of New Zealand.**

The 1911 Imperial Conference discussed concerns concerning Indian immigration, particularly the opinions of New Zealand Prime Minister Sir J. G. Ward. He was concerned about the possible effects of this immigration on white crews working on British-owned ships in the dominions abroad. He feared that permitting Indian labor would make matters more difficult for ship owners who were mandated to employ white crews. It is feared that the economic competition brought about by Indian labor could force ship owners to choose between changing the laws as they stand or transferring ship registration to locations outside of overseas territories. Drawing the Global Color Line sheds light on the prevalent racial beliefs of the time, emphasizing a symbolic boundary that separated people based on their race. Discriminatory practices, especially against non-white populations, were deeply ingrained. The concept of a "color line" serves as a metaphor for the racial segregation and discrimination that characterized this era.

The concerns of Sir J. G. Ward draw attention to the conflict between established racial beliefs and economic interests. His main worries were about how the rule requiring white crews on British-owned ships in the overseas dominions might be broken. A major theme in both the Imperial Conference discussions and the larger background described in Drawing the Global Color Line is the conflict between racial ideologies and financial considerations. Racial ideologies that were prevalent during this time were characterized by the idea that people of white descent were superior to those of non-white descent, as Drawing the Global Color Line illustrates. Fear of upcoming difficulties gave rise to the idea of white supremacy, especially as people of color started to resist colonization. Throughout the 19th century, the concept of a "white man's country" developed into imperialism and migration.

Finally, racial ideologies shaped the political landscape of the time, and an analysis of the issues raised by Sir J. G. Ward reveals a complex interplay between racism, imperialism, and world politics during this crucial period. The analysis demonstrates how racial beliefs shaped the choices made by leaders, and it also sheds light on how these ideas continue to influence the dynamics of power relations between powerful nations today.