

safety of his home instead of doing that duty himself. That seems to me when you work it out, to be a basic objection to this form of aid. It goes still further than that. Suppose you contribute this year your sum, and next year your sum, and thereafter year for year, after ten or twelve or twenty or thirty years you will have paid out an immense amount of money.

In Canada itself there will be no roots struck, there will be no pride left, there will be no preparation of the soil or beginning of the growth of the product. It disjoins what has been joined together from the earliest days of the world's existence—commerce and the protection of commerce.

That method ignores the necessities and the aspirations, and prospects of a great people, such as the Canadian people are destined to become.

However humble the beginning we must have something in which Canada has some of her body, her bones, her blood, her mental power and her national pride.

A Canadian Navy—Ideal in Character.

That ideal of a policy for naval defence suits me exactly. It has history to recommend it. It grapples with the great question of national defence. It appeals to our national pride. It begins as great things have often begun, probably in small beginnings. I know of no better way in which that policy could be expressed, than it was by these gentlemen on that occasion, and let me say, as I said before, that the fact that both sides of the House concurred in it stamps it with additional value. 'Behold how good and pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.' On few occasions in the history of Canada have both parties agreed upon what you might call a national policy. When the air was discoloured with inflammatory speeches and the whole public mind disturbed by the political agitation of 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865, thirty-three leaders of public opinion now known as the Fathers of Confederation from the four provinces of Canada met in the old city of Quebec. They laid down their arms, they shook hands over their differences. For eighteen days they studied, meditated and planned, and out of those meditations grew that magnificent fabric which we call the Dominion of Canada. On this second coronation day, four years ago, the two parties met, they had their differences, and always will have, and perhaps always ought to have in some respects, for we cannot agree on the details, but on the great question which would give to Canada her place in the family of nations and which would give to the British empire an additional source of strength, there was no difference of opinion, no confusion of thought, all were agreed that something should be done. In that unity of purpose there originated in the following year, 1910, the Naval Service Act, to which I shall refer a little later on. I shall not ask questions as to where the Bill before us originated. I do not know. Lord John Russell said, in regard to a small body of schismatics that troubled him in his early political career, that their policy was but the whisper of a faction, a whisper to which I fear, Mr. Borden has paid too much attention.

An Emergency Bill.

The hon. gentleman who opened this debate declared that this was an emergency Bill; declared that the peace of Europe was threatened; declared that for many years the various Kingdoms of Europe were plotting in some diabolical and unknown way the ruin of the British Empire, that alarm prevailed throughout the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that there was occasion for alarm, and he declared that the only way to meet that emergency was