

In order to vote a war budget of \$50,000,000, soon to be trebled, it was found urgent to call parliament in extraordinary session; but to convene parliament in order to make an advance of \$10,000 to a national industry, stimulate the trade, and transportation agencies of Canada, give food to Canadian labourers and their families, and alleviate the sufferings of the Canadian people, is neither urgent nor useful!

To send thirty, forty, fifty or one hundred thousand Canadians to risk their lives for the United Kingdom, who sends to the front less than fifteen per cent of her troops, fifty, one hundred or two hundred millions are not too much. But to pay \$10,000 as the initial step to enable a thousand Canadian labourers to earn \$250,000 in wages, thereby giving subsistence to four or five thousand Canadian people, Faugh! This is too mean a preoccupation for our bombastic and gigantic *Empire Saviours*.

Then, what profit would accrue therefrom to politicians and their suppliers? On army equipments, on boots made with raw cowhide, the soles of which split at first use, on razors *made in Germany* and paid at double the price, on coats and blankets burned by the thousand, on slaughtered horses, on permits of leave *sold* to the troopers, fat profits are made. Fie upon matters which bring nothing!

The bonus policy

Whether the measure proposed by Mr. Donald was the proper one to adopt, I am not prepared to say. The merits or the demerits of the proposal could have been discussed in parliament, after a prompt and thorough enquiry by technical experts. Short of such enquiry and discussion, Mr. Donald's argument remains that the proposed policy has fostered the trade of Germany and the United States. A similar policy was adopted and maintained in Canada during many years — the only difference being that the bonus then paid on certain iron and steel products went up to \$4 a ton, while the premium suggested by the British delegate could have stood, he thought, at the low figure of \$1 a ton.

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