

concerned, effectively working towards the end you have in view. If on the other hand you have an administration actuated by motives of peace and international goodwill, an administration seeking at every turn to further ideals of peace and international understanding with respect to all matters which may develop, whether in the departments or on the floor of parliament, then the name of the particular department which you may have come to be something wholly secondary in importance.

I should like now to give an illustration. I think my hon. friend was in the house in 1922 and will recall the communication which came to this country with reference to a certain disturbance which had arisen in the near east. This country was advised that the British government had decided to resist the inroads of the Turks upon Europe, and we were asked whether or not Canada was ready to join with the British government in that policy, and also if we intended or were willing to be represented by a contingent. As I have said, that communication came to the country first; it came to the government after the country had been advised of it. That is a phase of the incident to which I need not refer at the moment beyond recalling it to the minds of hon. gentlemen. However, the point of the communication was that the cabinet of Great Britain had decided to take that action and were asked as a Dominion, along with the other dominions, whether we were ready to send military and naval forces to join in resisting this inroad of the Turks upon Europe, upon Greece I think in particular. What was the position taken by this government at that time? We replied that before committing Canada to any participation in another European war we would wish to summon parliament, have all the facts of the case presented and allow parliament to decide whether or not contingents or naval forces should leave our shores to participate in another war. What was the attitude of hon. gentlemen opposite at that time with respect to the position we took? We were met with the charge that we had not responded as we should have responded to the call; we were told that the moment we received that call the answer of the administration should have been "Ready, aye, ready" and that we should have made it plain that we were prepared to send contingents to Europe. It so happens that the facts have since come to light more clearly than at the moment the government received the communication. What are the facts as they have come to be known to the world? In brief, they are that the British cabinet as

a whole had never considered the communication which was sent to the government of Canada and which was published broadcast in the press at that time. Not only the British cabinet as a whole had not considered that appeal, but leading members of the government and leading public men in England took the position that it was one of the most dangerous appeals that had ever been made by any government in any part of the world. More than that, we were told that but for the action of Canada in taking the position which she did at that time in asking that the facts be first brought out and that the parliament of Canada should have its say before contingents were sent abroad, a second great European conflict might have taken place.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Some hon. gentlemen opposite question that statement; let me give them my authority for what I say. I thought that point had come to be generally conceded, but if hon. gentlemen opposite are in any doubt I will give them the words of one of two British statesmen of whose verdict I think they will approve. I intend to quote two gentlemen, each of whom has been prime minister of Great Britain, each of whom has passed away, but each of whom though being dead, yet speaks to us through his utterances as recorded. What were the words of the late Andrew Bonar Law, who if I recall correctly was a member of that very administration? I quote from an English newspaper, the Newcastle Journal of November 8, 1922, in which reference is made to a speech by the late Mr. Bonar Law. These are his words in regard to the so-called Chanak incident, and with respect to the communication sent at the time to the dominions:

Towards the end of September a manifesto suddenly appeared in the newspapers. I read it with amazement. There was no consultation with the dominions, and this extraordinary manifesto was issued with the knowledge of three or four members only of the cabinet.

To suddenly throw, as a bolt from the blue, this appeal for help when not one of the dominions had the remotest idea that there was any idea of it, and when it was well known that their help could not come in time to be of any assistance in the crisis, was to risk, in my opinion one of the greatest assets of this empire. It was to take a risk with our dominions which no wise man would have taken, and which, I think, was not more foolish than it was wrong.

Then I have here the words of the late Lord Oxford and Asquith. What did he say, as reported in a Canadian Press cable to Canada

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