

Canadian army? His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the old General, the hero of South Africa, Lord Roberts. I say there is a beginning to everything. My hon. friend quoted a French axiom a moment ago. Let me quote another: 'Rome ne s'est pas bâti en un jour.' 'Rome was not built in a day.' The Canadian militia was organized fifty years ago. It is now a fighting force. It is a credit not only to Canada but to the empire, and when the time of danger comes, the Canadian militia will give a good account of itself. Might I not prophesy the same happy results for a Canadian navy? Sir, speaking for my country, I do not shrink at being great. No, I do not shrink at being great. My hon. friend, a moment ago, quoted the words of His Excellency the Governor General of Canada in Quebec the other day. He did not say what he had in his mind; he simply gave expression to a few flighty, elastic, pliable thoughts. I know, Sir, what will be said. Nay, I know what is already being said in the province of Quebec by my hon. friend's friends, about His Excellency. He is represented, very courteously, very chivalrously, by my hon. friend's companions and knight errants, as the commercial traveller of the empire. Sir, His Excellency the Governor General took occasion the other day, speaking before the Canadian club of Quebec, to define what the word 'imperialism' implied. I was very pleased to be present to applaud, and to see many of the leading citizens of Quebec, Conservatives and Liberals applauding also and cheering His Excellency. Let me translate into English what His Excellency said on that occasion. It is a lesson which should have been read by my hon. friend for his own benefit, and, now that I translate it, it will be a lesson to all those who misrepresent the attitude of the Governor General of Canada:

Is there in the world a people more privileged than the people who inhabit the fine province of Quebec? Your laws, your language, are under the special protection of the British Crown. In return for so many privileges and advantages, the Crown exacts nothing from you except sentiments of loyalty. The word 'imperialism' does not imply intervention from England in the government of this country; the word 'imperialism' symbolizes the power of each of the units of the empire and absolute liberty in each of these units.

Sir, speaking the language of the old Normans, which is still spoken in the British House of Commons, I say: J'assente. If that is the bogey represented by my hon. friend to the electors of Lachine and Jacques Cartier, I say: Happy electors of Lachine and Jacques Cartier, to be powerful as a unit of the empire, and also

absolutely free as a unit of that empire! Sir, have we not a sea-board to protect? Nay, we have two sea-boards to protect. We have also trade routes to look after. We have a sea-board on the Atlantic ocean with its prosperous and thriving cities; we have a sea-board on the western coast at Vancouver, at Victoria, at Prince Rupert, where, before many years have elapsed, marts of commerce and industry will develop. Not to speak of as possible conflicts with the United States of America—for I may well echo to the sentiment expressed by the Prime Minister of England, when, in a very recent debate he stated that, in his two-standard-power policy he never contemplated the possibility of conflict with the United States of America,—and neither do we contemplate the possibility of conflict with the great nation to the south. We would not, however, be true to ourselves, true to our traditions, if we did not exhibit to the Americans the same traits of courage, the same fighting qualities, that our ancestors have shown, should the hour of danger arise. We desire as a colony—nay, as a Dominion—we desire to be respected: let us begin by respecting ourselves and thus obtain the respect of the great neighbouring republic. But, Sir, not to speak of the United States of America, I say there is on the Pacific ocean a great power—two great powers. There is Japan, whose navy at the present hour—a navy organized by a Quebecker, Sir Archibald Douglas—is second only to that of Great Britain. As the Prime Minister stated this afternoon, fortunately for us, England in her many blunders—if I should use the word of the hon. member for Jacques Cartier—has secured a treaty of alliance with Japan. We have nothing to fear from Japan so long as that treaty lasts. But treaties do not last for ever, they are, so to speak, negotiable instruments: they change hands; and it is well to be prepared lest a change should take place. There is also a great power, China, which is looming large in the world's affairs, which sent, no longer ago than during the month of November last, a dozen picked naval officers to study in England the conditions of the British navy. Therefore, Sir, as I stated a moment ago, every one who does not shrink from thinking of his country being great, should think of our future and not cast aspersions on our efforts to build a navy. Mr. Speaker, I stated a moment ago, that we had trade routes to protect. I notice that some gentlemen are referring to resolutions which were adopted by the Grain Growers and the Grangers against the expenditure for a Canadian navy. Let me say this: I do not wish to lecture the Grain Growers and the Grangers, but some facts should not be ignored. If there is one class of people in this country