

tion, forgetting that we could always pose to his behalf of responsibility, the same sense of responsibility which must have equally nited the Prime Minister across the seas, Hon. Mr. Asquith. In this display of pyrotechnics we had the Malay gift. I will not read what some of the London papers have said of the surgical operation made upon these unrepresented poor Malays and Chinese coal mine labourers. I will not dwell on that. I want to believe that this extraction of a ship from those wards of Great Britain will not be repeated. I am of the opinion that the coup was organized to stampede Canada into action. It was served hot at the proper moment; it came in this time when the Dominion parliament was about to be seized, or was just seized with the demand of help to the mother country so as to save the empire through the gift of three ships to the British fleet. During the campaign which was carried on throughout Canada there have been indications of tampering with the Canadian press in various ways. There has been an organized bureau of information which sent out editorial comments to the various country newspapers at so much per line.

An hon. SENATOR—Fourteen cents per square inch.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—As a climax, we have had a surprising intervention from the First Lord of the Admiralty, who felt that something had to be done to bring back Canada from its unanimous resolution of the 20th March in favour of a Canadian navy. We had the extraordinary condition of the First Lord of the Admiralty disposing of those three ships when the parliament of Canada was in session discussing whether or not to adopt that policy. It was a most astounding departure in British constitutional practice, and I cite it as a last desperate effort of the admiralty to try and win back Canada to a money contribution. If Canada could only be brought back, it was hoped that all the other dominions would follow. Australia had declared for her own navy. New Zealand was about to serve notice on the admiralty. It did not believe that its national status would allow it to continue the contribution which it had made and it intended to build a New Zea-

land navy. I could cite the declaration of the Prime Minister of the South African confederation which is not more than two or three months old. In his mind contribution is not the best solution of the difficulty, and I could cite the words of the Minister of Defence for South Africa, who feared this movement throughout the empire in favour of contribution was not wholly spontaneous. It is true that the statement of Mr. Churchill was mitigated by the declaration that the difference in method which separated the proposal of Mr. Borden's government from the proposal of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's was not of vital importance. Was the First Lord of the Admiralty sugar-coating the pill which his heterodox intervention represented in our domestic affairs? Whatever his intentions, we have there again evidence that Mr. Churchill is comparing one policy with another and does not treat the Borden offer as an expediency. It seems to me if we needed one more reason for delaying this measure, that this campaign was carried on to stampede the people of Canada and the Dominion parliament would be sufficient to justify the Senate in adjourning this measure and asking the people in their sober thoughts to pass judgment upon it. Both leaders stated to the people in September, 1911, that they stood for a Canadian navy. Nobody will deny that. It is apparent that the Prime Minister has changed his mind. But have the people changed theirs? This is an important question for the Senate to decide. The Canadian people went to the polls with the conviction that a Canadian navy was the policy of both parties. Now if we vote this contribution of three ships to the admiralty, what assurance have we that the people are getting what they voted for? It is true that the Prime Minister put a rider to his declaration in favour of a Canadian policy. That rider was to the effect that if he found an emergency after consulting with the British admiralty, he would offer a contribution to Great Britain. But then something happened after that, a very important fact, too. It was the amendment of Mr. Monk and the sub-amendment of Mr. Borden which came after his declaration of policy. Mr. Monk, flushed with his victory in Drummond-Arthabaska,