

not man them. To-day we have not the men, and we never shall have men unless some system is devised by the Parliament of this country to encourage men to go not only into the navy, but into a practical business that will make them naval ratings.

What did Sir Wilfrid Laurier say in the speech he made in 1909? In discussing Canada's need of a navy he said this:

At present Canadian expenditures for defence services are confined to the military side. The Canadian Government are prepared to consider the naval side of defence as well. On the sea coasts of Canada there is a large number of men admirably qualified to form a naval reserve, and it is hoped that at an early day a system may be devised which will lead to the training of these men and to the making of their services available for defence in time of need.

That is what I am coming to right now. If we are ever going to build up a naval defence system we must have a policy which will provide men for naval defence. And there is only one place to get those men.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: The province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. DUFF: Surely. We want the boys from the north shore of the St. Lawrence to Red Bay and from the Gaspé coast down to the Bay of Chaleur, as well as the boys from the Maritime Provinces.

In order to build up a navy in this country we must do something—and now I want to talk to my honourable friend the leader of the Government in this Chamber (Hon. Mr. Dandurand), who has had a wealth of experience not only in this Chamber, but in the political and business life of this country. I am going to make a proposal that I hope he will carry to his colleagues in the Government. I am serious in this. I have no political axe to grind. I remember that when my honourable friend from Alma (Hon. Mr. Ballantyne) was Minister of Marine and Fisheries, even though we were opposed politically, he always listened to my views because he knew I was interested in the fisheries of this country. Therefore I say I want my honourable friend the leader of the Government in this Chamber to carry my proposal to the Government. If the Government and the people of this country are serious about naval defence, there is only one source of supply from which men can be secured, namely, the fishermen and the sons of fishermen in all the villages from Grand Manan to Cape North, and up to the St. Lawrence river and around to Belle Isle, and on the Pacific coast from Cape Flattery north to the Naas river.

My right honourable friend (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen) was rather critical, I thought, be-

cause a bill which came before us contained an item for relief. Perhaps he was right. Also, when he was arguing in support of the home improvement plan he spoke of "priming the pump." Well, it is useless to prime the pump unless the strainer is clear and the bilges are free of cotton waste and cinders.

We have spent millions of dollars in the last eight or nine years to relieve unemployment. My suggestion has two things in view. One is to provide permanent employment for thousands of men; the other is to build up a proper background for a Canadian navy. If we can afford to spend millions of dollars on the various items appearing in the supplementary estimates, if we can spend \$5,000,000 on a Bank of Canada building on Sparks street, and another three or four millions on a Supreme Court building—I am not objecting to this if we can do it—surely we can afford to spend money on an industry which is capable of the greatest of development, more especially as at the same time we shall be establishing a naval policy which will be a credit to Canada and will enable us to say that we are not dependent upon Japan, as we were in 1914, or the United States, as we were in 1916 or 1917. While we are willing to accept the co-operation of other countries, let us try to do our bit. I am going to show you where I think this country could spend money in such a way as to bring us millions of dollars of new wealth. My proposal, based entirely on the fact that we must do something to protect the sea coasts of this country, is as follows:

In view of the importance of the fishing industry in waters adjacent to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Canada, as well as in the Great Lakes and rivers; and

In view of the fact that this industry is capable of very great development and largely increased production; and

In view of the further fact that such development and production and consequent marketing of the various fish products, not only in Canada, but in the British West Indies and in foreign markets as well, would cause millions of new money to find its way into Canada; and

In view of the further fact that such development and increased production would mean permanent employment—

This is not like the home improvement plan, which will give a few days' work to the plumbers and carpenters. God knows no one has any use for the plumber.

—would mean permanent employment for thousands of fishermen on the sea, as well as employment for thousands of labourers in the different fish processing plants on shore, as well as the stimulation of the shipbuilding and kindred industries:

It is therefore submitted in the interest of the whole of the people of Canada and the economic well-being of the country that the Government should take immediate steps to