

kindly reference to the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Farris.

I need only allude to the speech by the seconder of the motion, my honourable friend from Kennebec (Hon. Mr. Parent). He stated that some thirty-two years ago he had in the House of Commons delivered his maiden speech on a similar occasion. We appreciate his good qualities and we thank him for his address.

One of the matters mentioned in the Speech from the Throne is the international situation. With my right honourable friend, as well as with the mover of this motion, I agree that the situation is very serious, and it has become more threatening since Germany announced she had been re-arming. Of course, everybody knew during the few years preceding the announcement that Germany was re-establishing her military strength, although all her public men denied it. Throughout the last few months, while in Europe, I could not help realizing that Europeans are living very dangerously. What surprised me most was to find in the frontier towns and cities of Germany notices in public and private elevators indicating the bomb-proof shelters where the public could take refuge in case of aerial attacks. I have read just lately that Great Britain has been distributing thirty million gas masks, some of which are called "baby masks," because even the children may be obliged to use them for protection in case of hostile raids. Lloyd's exclude war risks in their policies covering property in any part of the world except the United States and Canada. I think we should thank Providence that we are situated in America, by the side of a good neighbour.

My right honourable friend has asked what is Canada's duty to-day. If we concentrate our minds exclusively on Canada, my answer is that Canada must do what is necessary to protect herself by land and by sea. This is no small undertaking.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: What is the purpose of this protection by land? Surely it is not to defend ourselves against invasion from the south. Yet Canada must put her militia organization on a modern footing. She must also see to the protection of her shores. The shores of Canada are as vulnerable as, and more vulnerable than, the land itself, because at the present time invasion by land can come only from the south, and that is something we cannot visualize. We do not admit that it is possible, and we do not think about it; but we know what may happen on our coasts.

In 1909 I stood in this Chamber and defended, and voted for, a Canadian navy which should assume its share of the responsibility of defending our coasts. I did so to the cost of the fortunes of the Government, which, through the political co-operation of gentlemen who are known to my right honourable friend, was defeated in the province of Quebec. We know that three years after plans had been prepared and tenders called for the building of ships to defend Saint John and Halifax on the Atlantic, and Vancouver and Victoria on the Pacific, this policy was rejected, and that in 1914 the Government was searching about the world trying to buy ships that would defend the cities of Vancouver and Victoria. I stand now where I stood during the debate of 1909, and where I stood in 1911. Canada must prepare to protect herself against any contingency which would threaten her shores.

My right honourable friend says, "Should we not make up our mind as to what will be our policy in the event of any cataclysm?" Well, I draw the attention of my right honourable friend to this situation. We are far removed from the possible turmoil and conflict, which, if it strikes at all, will strike in Europe. It is my ardent hope that the fear which permeates the minds of Canadians, and of thinking people throughout the world, will turn out to have been unnecessary. I doubt very much that Germany will light the match which will set Europe afire—and I said so when I came back from Europe. I have read the eight hundred pages of *Mein Kampf*, which is the gospel in every German school, and I know that Germany's design is to extend to the east, and to reach the Ukraine by way of Poland or Czechoslovakia. To succeed in her design Germany would need the co-operation of Italy and the neutrality of Great Britain and Poland. Without those requisites I doubt that she would risk a throw of the dice. As I see conditions in Europe, Germany is simply forging an instrument which she may use on a certain conjunction of events, but which for the present, at least, has only a nuisance value. She hopes that Great Britain and France will in some way or other be induced to buy peace. I see by this morning's paper that Mr. Runciman says that Great Britain will not be forced into the position of buying peace under such conditions. We are all apprehensive about the situation; yet it may be that there will be a transformation and that some way can be found to secure the peace of mind of the people of Europe, who are near the maelstrom.

My right honourable friend will say, "But what about the danger that looms before our