

Canada—rather than await calls such as have not been altogether wanting from the other side of the water, to proportion our contributions to our growing resources, will go to meet our manifestly inevitable destiny. The New Canadian Patriot does not wish to leave any longer unacknowledged the immense debt incurred by Great Britain in her long battle for the North American estate and in her long unremunerated protection. The New Canadian Patriotism will not consent to be excluded from great international questions. It will claim to be heard in the councils of Nations. It will call for closer union with Great Britain and a consolidation of Imperial strength. It will not refuse its consent to a more equitable distribution of burdens. I have no politics on this platform to-night, but I rejoice as a Canadian when I see a true British patriot like Sir Wilfrid Laurier take the initiative in Imperial legislation. I think that the success of his past departures indicates that, with some education by a patriotic press, the people of Canada would approve of still further steps being taken, and that it might be even a very clever stroke of policy to announce that Canada had made a direct offer of assistance, such as Natal has done, to the British forces. I know that Canadian ministers are fond of expressing themselves on these matters in general terms, that they shrink from proposing any definite line of action. I know too that Sir Charles Tupper supports the view that Canada has already, by the construction of her railways and canals and the support of her militia, established Imperial highways which England might find to be almost essential for the maintenance of her power in the East. But