

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Did the resolution carry?

Mr. McINTOSH: Yes, it was carried.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): No, it was not.

Mr. McINTOSH: It did not come to a vote, but that was tantamount, in my way of thinking, to carrying it.

Mr. CAHAN: Oh, oh.

Mr. McINTOSH: If hon. gentlemen opposite were sincere in the stand they are now taking with reference to the duty on automobiles they would certainly have moved an amendment to the resolution. Then we would have had a vote, the resolution would have been passed, and it would have strengthened the hands of the government.

Mr. CAHAN: We did not get a chance to vote on it.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): A resolution can be proposed without your moving an amendment or voting against it.

Mr. McINTOSH: Yes, a resolution can be proposed without moving an amendment or voting against it; but if hon. gentlemen opposite are sincere and very much in earnest in regard to a certain line of public policy we would naturally expect them to stand by that idea of public policy when a question of importance with respect to it is brought up in the House.

Mr. CAHAN: I certainly would have voted against the resolution if I had had the opportunity.

Mr. McINTOSH: All I can say to hon. gentlemen opposite is this: If that is your stand at the present time it is a pity you did not show your sincerity and earnestness when the question was being discussed.

Mr. CAHAN: Will the hon. gentleman permit me to say as a matter of privilege that I expressed myself in the strongest possible way at the time?

Mr. McINTOSH: I should like to have seen my hon. friend go one step further; I should like him to have moved an amendment to the resolution and then hon. members generally could have shown exactly where they stood.

Mr. CAHAN: If the hon. gentleman will allow me to make an explanation I will say this: I have never seen the propriety of moving an amendment to a resolution to which I am directly opposed, and which I am prepared to oppose by my vote when it comes to a vote.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Does the hon. gentleman know that the Minister of Finance voted against that resolution in this House?

Mr. McINTOSH: When, a year ago?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Yes.

Mr. McINTOSH: That is not applicable to the question at the present time because any government has to adjust itself to the conditions which arise from year to year. A government that does not do so is not truly carrying out the idea of responsible government as we should have it in Canada. I believe the government did right by cutting the duty on automobiles, and that the country from coast to coast will support it in that action. I do not think there is going to be any doubt about that at all. By taking the stand it did the government of the day is showing the people that it is absolutely

responsible to the popular voice
4 p.m. having regard to the revenue to be derived from taxation. May

I be permitted at this stage to read a pronouncement made by the Prime Minister during the last election. Referring to the fiscal policy of the Liberal party he said:

In this the Liberals will hold themselves responsible, not dividing or reducing the party's responsibility on the tariff or taxation.

I believe that view will be accepted by the country. There is no doubt, in my mind, that reduction in the automobile duty will be regarded as a step in the direction of a true national policy in the interest of the country at large.

In connection with the tariff on automobiles the question of the duties of a tariff advisory board naturally arises. A lot has been said in this House during the last week or so on this question, and reference has been made to it to-day. I desire to point out that in the appointment of a tariff advisory board the government has been influenced by the ideas prevalent in other nations. There is no question of national significance in any country which has not its roots sunk deep in the annals of the past. The idea of a tariff advisory board, or a tariff board, or a tariff commission of any kind is not an innovation of the present day. We find that in 1906 Germany, in the organization of a tariff board, appointed a special committee, for a period of five years, composed of thirty-two experts representing the agricultural, the industrial, and the financial interests of the country. Not only that but the German parliament availed itself of the services of two thousand technical and trade experts in coming