

we pay for something we cannot control, that we contribute to the support of a navy which remains, under the terms dictated by Mr. Asquith or Mr. Harcourt, the sole property of the people of the British Isles, to be administered by them, for their ends, and in support of their policy. This I claim to be not so much against our traditions as Canadians, as against the principle of British citizenship. Not as a Frenchman, but as a British subject, I will only submit to it when I have clear proof that the Canadian people are willing to go down to that degree of subjection. Till that is done, I believe the best service that can be rendered to the Empire is to discuss this question freely, frankly, openly. I am prepared myself to stand as patiently as you have done to me, to the most imperialistic address, to the noisiest jingo appeal, because, when spoken from the heart, with proper arguments, it is from the clash of these ideas that truth will emerge. Right thinking Canadians will find a solution, providing it is in liberty, in frankness and in equality of rights.

