

*Supply—Naval Service*

Thirdly, we stand for a permanent Canadian navy to guard our coast and trade routes and commerce with Great Britain, and all other nations at peace with the Empire.

Fourthly, we stand for the construction of a navy and shipyards, using for that purpose the product of Canadian industry and building it by the industry of our people.

Fifthly, we stand for the training of our own seamen in naval schools and colleges, and on board training ships, so that when our ships go out to sea they will represent Canadian blood and bone and flesh, and sentiment.

Sixthly, we stand for placing our ships at the disposal of the King in case of emergency, or at any time, at the expense of Canada, and not at the expense of the British taxpayer.

The leader of the Liberal party in the Senate argued in favour of contribution; and if ever there was a time when we should make a contribution, it is here and now. Canada owes it to the Mother Country and its magnificent fleet—that the awful horrors of war were not visited upon our own soil and that the war did not cost us many millions more than it did. Sir George Ross says further:

Our hearts, hopes and money to go with the ships wherever they are called to fight for the integrity of the Empire.

Seventhly, we stand for co-operation with His Majesty's dominions beyond the sea in forming one solid phalanx if need be, with all the powers they represent, in the defence of Britain for the peace of the world.

Eighthly, we stand for unity and defence if the emergency arises, and we do not propose to question the wisdom of the Admiralty as to how or where that emergency has arisen, or with whom or why we are called upon to fight for the Empire. If you can get any better foundation, I will go with you, and I will stand on a stronger platform than any own if you build me one. We want to be in the strongest position and we want to do that in perfect independence.

Where does the Liberal party stand to-day? By their seventeen-cent-a-head policy they have discarded the eight planks laid down by Sir George Ross which I have just read.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I may say that the people of Canada are disappointed and humiliated by the attitude of the Government of the day. It has been stated that we are a nation; but notwithstanding the great part taken by Canada in the war, notwithstanding the status which we are supposed to have attained, in the matter of naval policy we are going back to the state of affairs which existed one hundred and fifty years ago—Canada—a so-called nation—is to continue to sponge on the British taxpayer and, through the action of the Government in this matter, is reverting to the position of a Crown colony.

[Mr. Church.]

Mr. H. C. HOCKEN (West Toronto): Mr. Chairman, I do not flatter myself that anything I can say will change the policy of the Government. At the same time, I think it is my duty to voice a protest against the reduction that has been made in the naval estimates. There can be no doubt whatever that the amount put in last year was the absolute minimum to be

4 p.m. of any service whatever, to be of any value in keeping a naval organization of some small degree of efficiency. The Government have thought it wise to reduce the appropriation to the point where practically no reasonable result can be obtained. Now, sir, if they were wiping out the naval appropriation altogether, there might at least be some ground of economy upon which they could argue; but what they have done is to make an appropriation for an expenditure of a million and a half which can produce no result whatever. Two or three trawlers out on the Pacific and two or three trawlers on the Atlantic, with a torpedo boat, is to be the naval establishment of this country for the next year. I do not believe, Sir, that this meets with the approval of the people of Canada. I know how anxious the people of this country are for economy; I am as keen as any member of the House to reduce the expenditure; but I think that at a time like this there should be some appreciation of our duty in the matter of providing for the defence of Canada and of showing a desire not to continue to lean entirely upon the navy of the Mother Country.

In discussing this question the other night the right hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Meighen) made a remark which indicated that, in his mind at least, the state of affairs existing throughout the world was not such as to justify our dispensing with the little degree of efficiency that we had in our naval service. I want to read to the committee the opinion of a man who ought to be a competent authority on that particular subject. When Right Hon. Lloyd George reached London yesterday he presented a picture of Europe which must make every man harbour a fear of the possibility of another outbreak on that continent; and if that is the case, surely it behooves us at a time like this not to wipe out the effectiveness and efficiency of the naval establishment that we have, but, if anything, to increase it. Mr. Lloyd George, referring to the Genoa Con-