

own defence, or co-operate with the naval authorities of Great Britain. If my hon. friends were sincere in their attitude they must know that in any event, no matter whether or not they should come into office again, and proceed with the programme under the Naval Bill of 1910, those ships would be absolutely necessary for the very beginning of that programme. These gentlemen have never been sincere on this question. Their insincerity is to be found recorded in the resolution moved by the leader of their party last session, where it was proposed that Canada should enter upon a programme which admittedly would take ten or fifteen years at least to carry out. The Liberal party at that time proposed that Canada should build two units, one for the Atlantic and one for the Pacific, and furthermore, that those two units should be constructed in Canada. It was proven beyond peradventure, that to enter upon such a constructive programme as that outlined in the resolution would, in the first place, involve an expenditure of fifty or sixty million dollars for the purchase of the units, and an expenditure of \$75,000,000 for building plants; even then a ship could not be built until at least ten or fifteen years had passed by.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—Months.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—The Empire of Japan twenty years ago entered upon a somewhat similar programme, and they are not yet able to build all their ships. Most of their vessels are built in European waters and particularly in the dockyards of Great Britain. The very fact of placing that resolution on the records of Parliament, established that these hon. gentlemen are not sincere when they speak of coming to the assistance of Great Britain by the building of a navy.

I venture to say that my hon. friends are more anxious about the unity of the Liberal party than they are about the unity of the empire—

An hon. GENTLEMAN—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—And for that reason they cannot agree upon a programme looking to the common defence of the empire. Do we never realize the humiliating position in which we as the chief colony of the empire are placed? When we consider that the shipping of Canada, that is our foreign shipping, represents approximately half a billion of dollars per annum, our tonnage closely approaching a million, that

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED.

our ships are sailing over every trade route of the world, and that we are not contributing one dollar towards the defence of that enormous volume of Canadian interests, but that we are relying entirely upon the taxpayers of Great Britain to furnish us with the defence for our own shipping—I say, that if we had a throb of national manhood in our makeup we would hold our heads in shame and humiliation. We rely upon the taxpayers of Great Britain contributing some fifty million pounds per annum for the British Navy and this for Canada's protection.

Some hon. MEMBERS—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—And yet we sit by, and idly fold our hands; we talk of doing something in the future. We talk of constitutional difficulties appearing in the way. We build up walls of statutory enactments and constitutional quibbles, and we label them 'Insurmountable for Constitutional Reasons,' and yet look with equanimity at the weary Titan bearing this enormous burden, imposing fifty million pounds of taxes upon the masses of Great Britain, that we with the empire may rest in security. I venture to say that every hon. gentleman present knows that never was Canada placed in so humiliating a position as when this Bill was rejected at the last session of Parliament; when the cables from Canada and from the United States carried the news to Germany, and to the other countries of Europe that were opposed to Great Britain, that Canada had failed to stand by the empire in its hour of peril. That being the case, I venture to say that the Government of Canada will not again submit it until it has some assurance that there will be a more loyal response than has already been given to that very important measure.

Some hon. MEMBERS—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—My hon. friend asked the question, and perhaps very properly so, why the Government of Canada did not enter upon a building programme under the Naval Act of 1910? I shall tell my hon. friends, with very great pleasure, why that was not done. Previous to the general elections of 1911, the Conservative party announced its policy, not only in the House of Commons but throughout the country. They expressed their disapproval of what is known as the Laurier Naval Act. The country supported the Conservative party in their condemnation of that Act. I venture to say, and I say it also with the greatest