

alized peoples to-day. Semi-barbarians in the Balkans can fight, but the Hague tribunal is the great institution of this modern age, and we shall never hear of a conflict between two such highly civilized peoples as those of Great Britain and Germany. Everybody, however, from the highest in the land to the lowest, from those who are at the top of the ladder to those who are at the first rung, knows that there exists, to the disgrace of humanity, a coterie of international scaremongers. We know that in England, in France, and in Germany there are scaremongers. The other day in the Reichstag one of the leaders of the Socialist party, Herr Leibnich, with the full evidence in his hands, denounced the Krupp conspiracy, which amounted to this, that in every chancellory and in every parliament of Europe, and on many of the leading newspapers of Europe, there are agents of the armour-plate firms whose sole business it is to stir up difficulties and entanglements between the nations of the world.

Will any cash, any tip from Canada help the Mother Country? First of all, it does not secure our self-respect, because \$35,000,000 does not begin to pay what has been estimated to be our debt to Great Britain. It has been estimated by the Prime Minister that we owe at least \$400,000,000 to Great Britain for naval defence in the past. If that be true, \$35,000,000 does not begin to pay our debt to the Mother Country. But would this cash help the Mother Country in any way, shape or form? Let me give you, Mr. Chairman, a few figures. Great Britain is, as we all know, the wealthiest nation in the world. Her new foreign investments last year amounted to \$800,000,000. Her present foreign investments amount to \$18,000,000,000. The annual increase in wealth of Great Britain is \$1,200,000,000. During the last five years, after paying her military and naval expenditure, her old age pensions, and her insurance of workingmen, she succeeded in decreasing her national debt by \$270,000,000.

I am told that this contribution is only to save our self-respect. Mr. Chairman, a loan of ships, unmanned, unequipped, by Canada is not restoring to us our self-respect towards the Mother Country.

We are against a cash contribution, I repeat, for the very reasons given by the hon. gentlemen opposite in 1909, because, in the language of the present hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Foster):

It bears the aspect of hiring somebody else to do what we ourselves ought to do.

Because, as he again said:

In Canada itself there will be no roots struck, there will be no residue left, there

will be no preparation of the soil or beginning of the growth of the product.

Because, to use again the language of the Minister of Trade and Commerce:

It disjoins what has been joined together from the earliest days of the world's existence—commerce and the protection of commerce.

Because, as he again said.

That method ignores the necessities and the aspirations, and prospects of a great people, such as the Canadian people are destined to become.

And because, as he said again, however humble the beginning, we must have something—

—in which Canada has some of her body, her bones, her blood, her mental power and her national pride.

Were I in need of arguments this evening for a Canadian navy, I would only have to repeat what has been said by my hon. friend the absent Minister of Trade and Commerce. I say again to the Prime Minister: You are being condemned, not only by public opinion in Canada, but by the best friends that Imperialism has ever had in Great Britain. Have you read the letter published not very long ago in the London Post by Mr. Jebb, who, we all know, is one of the sanest apostles of Imperial Federation in Great Britain? His works on the Imperial Federation question are in the Library. It has been my pleasure and my advantage to read them, and I say that no publicist has ever so logically advocated the cause of Imperial Federation as he. What does Mr. Jebb think about the proposals of the Government of the day? Whilst some hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House may think that I am speaking at too great a length on this subject, I hope I shall not be regarded as obstructing the measure. I am speaking honestly my own mind, and in doing so I am convinced that I am acting in the best interests of the Empire to which I am proud to belong. Mr. Jebb, in the Morning Post of March 22, after the Churchill memorandum was published, condemned the intrusion of Mr. Churchill into Canadian politics and uttered the following weighty words:

It is no longer fashionable, at least in England, to applaud the doctrine of 'fresh centres of naval strength' which Lord Milner enunciated in Canada amid general applause a few years ago. But some of us still think that the permanent tendencies of Dominion evolution are dead against any system of cash contribution, with its political corollary—Imperial federation. The alternative naval system is that of Dominion fleet units, organized for combination in war under one control, with a more fully developed Imperial conference to supply the means of con-