

CANADIAN TRADE AND FINANCE DURING THE WAR.

seemed to me to be like a great fortress from which she makes sallies, but she is and has been under siege from the beginning, is really on the defensive, and will be until the end; and if we keep on, as we shall keep on, there is only one end in view. Germany must collapse.

Britain's part in the war has been a great and noble and, to me, a most wonderful part. I doubt if it is realized what a part Great Britain played in this war, and how she has upheld all her ancient traditions, those traditions under which she became the world's champion against tyranny in Europe. Great Britain has stood forth again in the part of saving the world, because the British fleet since the outbreak of this war has verily saved the world. We take it all as a matter of course. The seven seas are clear of enemy ships of the second naval power in the world, the second naval power with her ships blockaded in the Kiel Canal, unable to venture out; twenty-five enemy cruisers intended to destroy British commerce at the outset of the war, and not one of which has not been sunk or interned.

Let us not overlook our Allies. The battle of Marne was the greatest battle ever fought in the history of the world, under one of the greatest commanders that history has ever known, General Joffre; nor do I know of greater qualities of mind, of military skill, of profound strategy, than those displayed by the Commander-in-Chief of the allied forces, the great forces of France, the small but wonderfully valiant and powerful army of England, when he ordered his forces to retreat and to continue to retreat to the confines of Paris, and then taking his stand with a fresh army on his left and on his centre, said: "This is the time to take the offensive, and every Frenchman must advance or die where he stands," and the French and the English did advance, under their great chief, and in the four days' fight that followed they defeated the Germans, and Germany has been on the defensive ever since. Mr. Chairman, I say that Great Britain's exploits in this war have been in accordance with the highest traditions of her great and glorious history; in clearing the seas the British navy has again saved the world, and as to the army which she has organized, and the Dominions of the Empire have organized, I say that instead of being critical, to me it is a most marvellous thing that Britain has been able to organize and equip an army of three million men. You cannot expect men to perform miracles, to improvise armies, and yet it seems to me that is precisely what has been done. The British authorities have raised a great army, a splendid fighting organization. They have really wrought a miracle. Remember Great Britain never expected to put an army of more than 200,000 men into Europe. Their plants, their arsenals were all equipped on that scale, and here, in one year, they have been able to raise and equip an