

Mr. HUGHES. The First Minister and the Postmaster General may expatiate on the justice of the rebellions of 1837 and 1838, and may talk about the rebels as heroes; but I am willing to let their speeches speak for themselves. I again repeat, they will search the pages of history in vain to find one solitary disability under which the people laboured at that time that would justify them in engaging in a rebellion.

Now, Sir, what are the principles at stake in this naval business? One is the question of immediate help. Does this Bill provide it? Not in the slightest. At the earliest, it will be four or five years before this little fleet will be ready, and when it is ready it will be of no use. Secondly, does this Bill uphold the unity of the empire? I maintain that from first to last the unity of the empire is threatened by this Bill. We all deplore war as much as the hon. member for the Yukon does; but, as the Scotchman said, 'Nae man can live at peace wi' his neebur unless his neebur lets him'; and before I am through I will endeavour to show that the German nation is determined that her neighbours will not live at peace if she can prevent it. Under the policy outlined by the First Minister, the wars of the future are to be easy. For instance, if the Yankees fight us, we will fight them, because they are our near neighbours; but he did not think we would be justified in engaging in a war between Great Britain and Russia, which would possibly involve the integrity of the whole empire. One plan of the First Minister is to get up a fleet here and give our boys a chance to get some good jobs in connection with it, and then not go to war at all. Another plan of his, as stated on page 3050 of 'Hansard,' is this: 'If Great Britain got into trouble, a wave of enthusiasm to assist her would sweep over this country and all other British countries.' That wave of enthusiasm would strike terror to the hearts of the Germans. That is one form of strategy proposed by the First Minister. Then, at page 3040, another plan proposed by him was 'all joining in the case of a common danger and from all points of the earth, rushing upon a common enemy.' Another beautiful plan, in time of war, when we have no fleet ready. His third proposition, which is found on page 3047 of 'Hansard,' is this: 'We would strike the enemy before the enemy would strike us.' This is an old rule in warfare, but I do not see what he would have to strike with under this Navy Bill. We require to have something to strike with or something to rush or something to be carried along by this wave of enthusiasm which the right hon. gentleman talks about. The policy of the opposition is to put something now at the disposal of Great Britain to strike with, and to make these gentlemen sit up in case of trouble.

Mr. LEMIEUX.

When the hon. member for the Yukon was speaking, I thought of the old prophet Buddha, that apostle of love and peace, who on one occasion was accosted by a tremendous giant, who said to him:

'Lo! son of peace,' the giant cried, 'thy fate
Is sealed at last, and Love shall yield to Hate.'
The unarmed Buddha, looking with no trace
Of fear or anger, in the monster's faec,
In pity said, 'poor fiend, even thee I love.'

Then the giant, becoming transformed into the form and fashion of a dove, circling around the head of Buddha, sang:

'Hate hath no harm for Love,' so ran the song,
And peace, unweaponed, conquers every wrong.

I do not see how this escaped my good friend in his comments. The philosopher from the Yukon reminds me of a professor of teaching who heard this story of Buddha, and lectured his students on the proper mode of discipline. He said: 'Of course, punishment must be meted out when a wrong is committed; but when you enter your class, you should always leave your rawhide on your desk and watch the first opportunity. When a boy misbehaves, you should hand over the rawhide to the young delinquent, fold your arms and wait the result. The delinquent will burst into tears, apologize to the teacher, and there will be harmony and peace all round. A number of teachers tried the plan. One morning a pupil committed some depredation and his teacher said to him: 'My little man you have been misbehaving, and punishment must be inflicted, but inasmuch as I prefer to receive it rather than administer it, you take the rod and I will take the punishment; and to his surprise the young lad, unlike the one in his story, picked up the rawhide and belaboured the teacher and chased him out of the school-room'. So the fine theory of the hon. member for the Yukon about the people of England staying at home and giving out love stories to the Germans will not work out in actual practice with poor old humanity. Cicero told us long ago that 'war should be waged in order that we may live in peace without suffering wrong'. I am satisfied that Great Britain has had within twelve months provocation to go to war with Germany; but owing to that long suffering spirit which is characteristic of the English nation, she has refrained. William Pitt long ago told the people of England that war with all its evils is better than a peace in which there is nothing but usurpation and wrong; and in case Germany should carry out her intention of going to war with the British empire, no nation would ever have indulged in a more