

manded by them. Great Britain does not ask her colonies to give her something for nothing. Very true, the English press and the English business men, and members of the Imperial Parliament, laud this proposition, and they laud it because they are anxious that not only Canada, but that any country on the face of the globe should give them trade advantages. The business men of England are too shrewd not to recognize that this proposal of the Liberal Government here, gives them valuable concessions. They are not applauding the Liberal party of Canada on the ground of patriotism, but they are applauding them on the grounds of their giving advantages to English trade in the Canadian market. That is not true patriotism, and it is not a true Canadian view either. It is a false proposition for hon. gentlemen opposite to say, that we should hold out the olive branch to the motherland. England demands no such thing from Canada, and if she did make such a demand I am prepared to say, for my part, that it would be hardly fair. It is not a progressive proposition for any one to make. What do hon. gentlemen opposite propose to do? They propose to open the markets of Canada to the manufacturers and workmen of England, and for that they get absolutely nothing in return, because England has nothing to give. England cannot afford under present circumstances, to give us any special privileges, and, Sir, neither can we afford to give England any special privileges. I say that the people of Canada would show that they were not an enlightened and progressive people, if they were prepared to shape their fiscal policy upon the ground of sentiment.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton). Hear, hear.

Mr. CLANCY. My hon. friend says "hear, hear." Let me make myself perfectly clear, and I am sure I will have his approval again. I say, that when it is a question of the vital interests of the people of Canada, when it is a question of destroying the industries of this country, we should not allow sentiment to enter into the calculation. I should like to ask the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, if he thinks that sentiment should be considered in a matter of this kind? I am sure the hon. gentleman would not make any such assertion. Sir, this proposition of hon. gentlemen opposite, will have the effect in this country of favouring the wealthier classes and of taxing more heavily the poorer and the larger consuming classes. Hon. gentlemen opposite have done this for the mere sake of waving the banneret of preferential trade to England. Hon. gentlemen opposite may be applauded in England, but I tell them that they will not have the plaudits of the people of Canada.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton). Your leader advocated that.

Mr. CLANCY. Let me tell my hon. friend what my leader does advocate. He has advocated in the past, and I hope he will continue to advocate in the future, an intelligent and progressive policy. What was the position taken by the leader of the Conservative party in the past in regard to preferential trade with England? Under the Conservative policy, preferential trade did not mean that Canada was to make all the sacrifices, but it meant, that within the Empire, we should have some advantages that foreign countries would not have.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton). The Conservative party were to be sturdy beggars, giving nothing in return for what they got from England.

Mr. CLANCY. There are none so blind as those who do not wish to see. I ask my hon. friend (Mr. Wood) to consider for a moment what advantages his party are giving under their preferential resolution, and then to consider, what they are getting in return. The policy of the Conservative party was, that Great Britain and her colonies should enter into such trade arrangements as would be mutually beneficial to all, and that could only be accomplished by concessions on all sides. The business men of Canada never thought of preferential trade on any other ground, and I am sure that the business men of Canada will not be carried away by the proposition made now, although no doubt hon. gentlemen opposite hope they will. I would like to ask my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, why does he not make more concessions to England, if he thinks it right to make one. If this is a question of sentiment, then sentiment is very cheap, and gentlemen opposite can go on and do a great deal more for England. There is absolutely no limit to the extent to which you can go in the matter of sentiment. The Conservative party base their policy on a sounder ground. We say that concessions can only be made to the extent that we get an equivalent in some direct or indirect manner. I repeat that the people of Canada cannot afford to make any concessions to any country, without obtaining some compensating advantages.

I wish now, Mr. Speaker, to refer briefly to the proposition which confers such extraordinary powers on one individual, to give force and effect to this preferential resolution. I venture to say, Sir, that no Government in any enlightened country, under our modern notions of parliamentary government, ever came to a free Parliament, asking such extraordinary powers as the Liberal Government ask for I think that resolution. Members on both sides of the House will agree with me in that. The Parliament of Canada is for the first time in its history asked to surrender its power, and to place it in the hands of one man. If such a proposition were carried to its logical conclusion,