

and better markets and put them on the road to prosperity, a road which they will not get on for many years to come. In the eloquent peroration with which the hon. gentleman closed his speech, and he is certainly a good speaker, he appealed to this side of the House and said: Let us bury the hatchet. The Liberal party buried the hatchet, and the axe also, in 1909, when the House voted unanimously for a Canadian navy in reference to the defence of the Empire. I do not think it comes with very good grace from an hon. gentleman opposite to talk of burying the hatchet at this time. He went on to say that he hoped we would stand up to-night and vote with the Government. He will find that we will stand up and vote, but I do not think there will be many members on this side of the House who will vote for the proposition brought down by the right hon. leader of the Government. I have, I imagine, about fifty reasons why this Bill should not pass, and at this stage of this discussion, with the gag tightening around our throats, I do not propose to occupy much time.

I am opposed to it because it is a measure brought into this House for the purpose of extricating the Tory party from an unpleasant position in which they found themselves when they so unexpectedly were placed in the Government seats, which do not fit them, and which they will not occupy after the next election. Then again, I am opposed to it because the people, or some of them only, were deceived by the cry that an emergency existed, and that Great Britain and Germany were on the verge of war. But we have not heard the word 'emergency' used by any hon. gentlemen opposite for some months. Even the Prime Minister's voice is restored to its natural tone, and not trembling with emotion as it was when he read his pastoral address in introducing the resolution last December. I am convinced more than ever that no emergency then existed, and that it will not be found to exist in the distant future when Germany and Great Britain will have a further agreement as to the building of warships. I further conscientiously believe that the present proposal of the Government has not made the relations between these two great nations any more cordial.

I am opposed to it again because it is neither a gift nor a sane business proposition. At one time we are told by the Government it is a gift, and then again they say there are strings to it. I presume the hon. Postmaster General (Mr. Pelletier), the hon. Minister of Inland Revenue (Mr. Nantel), and you, Mr. Chairman, will each have a string, and then, if the Nationalists of Quebec still object to Canada doing anything for the Mother-

land, they will pull these strings and deter the dreadnoughts from being the most powerful dreadnoughts that 'science can conceive and money buy' ever do any effective work either in the North sea or tied to the rock of Gibraltar, with all the members of a mongrel government having strings to them and pulling against each other.

I am opposed again to the voting because I firmly believe, feeling as I do our obligations as one of a galaxy of nations within the Empire, that we owe something to ourselves and to those we are bound to, by the strongest ties of a free and autonomous people, and therefore we should at once without delay commence the building of ships and carry out the Laurier naval policy of establishing a navy of our own, with the proper dignity and self-respect of this our young and optimistic nation, thus manifesting that we are true to our heritage and destiny. During the last election the Tory headquarters at Yarmouth had across the whole front of the building the motto: 'Canada for the Canadians.' At the next election I would suggest this motto for their headquarters: 'Canadian workmen's money for British ship-builders, and armour plate monopolists.'

I am opposed to the Bill again because I do not believe it commands the respect and endorsement of a large majority of the people of Canada, and after the discussions and difference of opinion that have been expressed I do not know that the people of the Motherland will accept the proposal of the Government at all, and I think they would not be doing justice to a large part of the people of Canada if they did.

We emphatically believe on this side of the House in the building of our own ships, the inauguration of ship-building plants; in short a Canadian built, owned and manned Canadian navy controlled by the people of Canada through its representatives in Parliament, ready at all times to defend and protect our own coasts as well as our ever growing and expanding trade routes. We believe that by pursuing such a policy we shall in a truly patriotic way be rendering aid to the Empire and doing justice to ourselves.

Liberalism stands to-day as it has always stood for enlarged freedom and a strong and deep patriotism. It does not proclaim its loyalty from house tops and on public platforms at election times, but is ready at all times to render aid to the Motherland, not in a grudging manner, or by the application of the gag or closure, whichever you may call it, which throttles free speech, the greatest and most inestimable gift ever enjoyed by a free and independent people, and which shatters the greatest safety valve we had before its application, and which puts back the hands