

of the peace of the world, from the mistress of the seas. The story is told of William Pitt that no one who entered his presence ever retired without being a braver man. I am braver because I have read this report. I ask hon. gentlemen who are not as brave as I am—for my standard is very high—to read on—

"She has before now successfully made head alone and unaided against the most formidable combinations."

You feel the pulse of patriotism and power in every line of this clause. I think it was Ralph Waldo Emerson who said the pulse of England beats like a trip-hammer. You feel it there, you hear it. I will read on:

She has before now successfully made head alone and unaided against the most formidable combinations and she has not lost her capacity by a wise policy and strenuous exertions to watch over and preserve the vital interests of the Empire.

Our little mother isle, God bless her for her courage and her determination. And here is another sentence:

The Admiralty are assured that His Majesty's Government will not hesitate to ask the House of Commons for whatever provision the circumstances of each year may require. But the aid which Canada could give at the present time is not to be measured only in ships or money. Any action on the part of Canada to increase the power and mobility of the Imperial navy, and thus widen the margin of our common safety, would be recognized everywhere as a most significant witness to the united strength of the Empire, and to the renewed resolve of the overseas dominions to take their part in maintaining its integrity.

There is a word there I want to repeat:

The Admiralty are assured that His Majesty's Government will not hesitate to ask the House of Commons for whatever provision the circumstances of each year may require.

No dis-union; the Admiralty and House of Commons all one in the defence of the empire; that is the position in which we should be to-day. The Senate, the House of Commons, all the physical and financial forces of Canada, one in the defence of Canada and the defence of the Empire. And from what I have read you will see that there is no demand upon Canada for this aid. Britain unaided, alone, can cope with her enemies or with any combination of them. Now let me point out some objections to the present Navy Bill which appear on the surface.

Second Objection.

2. My second objection to the Bill is that the control of the ships when constructed is removed from the Government of Canada and placed at the disposal of His Majesty under such "terms, conditions and arrangements as may be agreed upon by the Governor-in-Council and His Majesty's Government." Now I cannot understand why ships built at the expense of Canada should be subject to an agreement of this kind. More than eighty years ago we escaped from the control of Downing Street and since then have enjoyed responsible Government and all the privileges included in that comprehensive term. Now we are returning to a condition of things in which the full control of our Navy, or at least so much of it as pertains to the battleships to be constructed under the Bill, is lost.

Suppose that these ships were placed at the disposal of His Majesty and either the Admiralty or the Canadian Government desired a rearrangement of those terms and conditions, is there not the