



MR. T. B. MACAULAY,  
Managing-Director, Sun Life of Canada.

to my mind of decidedly minor importance compared to the great effects which such a union would have upon our national life. Not only would it broaden our manufacturing field, not only would it make our people more prosperous, but it would increase the importance of the Dominion among the nations of the world. It would develop a greater and grander Canada. In fact, I almost believe that it would make us Canadians hold our heads an inch higher when talking with people of other lands. (Laughter and applause.) You may say this is mere national sentiment, and it is, but national sentiment and national pride count for a great deal! As Canadians, this cannot but appeal to us strongly.

But, gentlemen, after all, it is the British aspect which overshadows every other. It would be a long step in the working out of the destiny of Canada, and the destiny of our Empire. What is Canada's destiny? We have passed the old colonial days, and have now attained young manhood. Does that mean that we should break loose from the mother who has nursed and cared for us in our days of weakness? A thousand times no! (Applause.) What then? I see before me a vision of a great alliance—a

great partnership, so to speak, of five great nations—Great Britain, Canada, Australia, South Africa and India—five partners, each supreme in her own sphere, but each united to the other by the strongest ties of mutual interest, and of mutual love and common loyalty to our Mother Land and to our King. (Applause.) Gentlemen, it is our privilege and pride to be able to be one of the five partners that go to make up the great world-firm of John Bull & Sons. (Applause.) Everything that tends to enlarge and strengthen Canada as one of the partners, enlarges and strengthens the great consolidation to which all five belong. Canada's destiny is great and glorious. I know nothing that will help us to catch the vision of that grand destiny better than to have interests outside of our own boundaries. We must cease to think provincially; we must think imperially. We are a great nation and it is time we realized it. We must step forward. That very stepping forward will itself solve many of our imperial problems for us. For example, the need of a substantial fleet to properly protect the routes which our great and growing trade will follow, will be self-evident, and that navy, gentlemen, will be one worthy of Canada, worthy of the greater Canada which we will then be, worthy of us as one of the five partners in the great firm, and capable I hope of doing effective service if need should unhappily arise.

Then again, every thoughtful man knows that our Empire suffers from lack of cohesion. Small, isolated, weak colonies, like the Bahama Islands, so far from being a source of strength to the Empire, need protection. They may be compared to a number of loose sticks, any one of which could be easily broken. But if these be firmly bound up with something greater and stronger, such as Canada, not merely do the small units receive strength from the greater, but to some extent they also add to the united strength. Anything that tends to utilize the weak outlying portions of the Empire is a step in the direction of that consolidation which is so much needed, and one in which all Britons should rejoice.

But, gentlemen, I look on this measure as but the beginning of a great movement, that will have vast and beneficent consequences to our Empire. The movement is already far advanced and still advancing. Of the three parties whose consent is needed, one, the Bahamas, has already acted—they have invited us to a conference. The second is Canada, and I can tell you that our government is considering the