

Harrison, and William T. Stead—sublime altruistic heralds of peace, affirm it, and proclaim to the people what men like A. J. Balfour and Lord Roberts had previously declared, and what the Liberal Premier of the United Kingdom has now accepted as an indubitable fact? Clearly it is no political or party manoeuvre, nor is it a Jingo Scare.

The fate of the United Kingdom is the fate of the Empire. How often have we proclaimed it, and how often has the echo of our words been the only response? Now, at all events, the fact is recognized; and once again Truth has triumphed.

CANADA MUST NOW DEFINITELY ASSUME HER POSITION WITH ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. Her action must be the action of a self-respecting member of the great Confraternity of Nations that constitute the British Empire. We have had enough of the sophistry, the polite palaver, and the unwept tears of sentimental devotion and love to the Mother-Country that have so long characterized the Imperial utterances in our National Parliament, while we witnessed that same Mother-Country drooping in strength, though still unaided, shouldering the burdens that we ourselves should have helped her to carry.

The Mother-Country, the Mother of our Parliament, the Mother of our Freedom, deserves no doubt our gratitude for the magnificent heritage she has donated us, as she deserves and receives the applause of the World for the beneficent influence she has exerted in the cause of humanity and civilization, through her Naval Predominance.

But shame, a craven's shame must stigmatize the Canadian name, if the people of this Land continue to suck the Vitals of our kinsmen in the old world—the depopulated Irish, the impoverished Scotch, and the financially oppressed English—while we swell in number, year by year, and revel, some in absolute, others in comparative luxury, and all enjoy an atmosphere utterly oblivious of want or of financial care.

The Canadian people will not incur this odium; and they will not transmit it to their children.

I know them too well to doubt their manhood. But they must not be drawn into a wrongful apprehension of what is required of them; and they must carefully discriminate between gratitude and duty, between generosity and the acquittance of an obligation.

*The Canadian people must draw an acute line between duty to themselves and generosity to others, between their obligations to the Empire, and gratitude to the Mother-Land, no matter how strong may be the impulses of devotion, and loyalty and love.*

If they will do this in the Light of Truth; and if their acts correspond with, and conform to that Light, then Canada will be at once transfigured before our very eyes. We will then behold in reality, what is now only an imaginative creation and a figment—a British Empire with Canada a Nation within the Empire, self-reliantly discharging her own obligations.

What could Canada ask for more; and what higher tribute could be paid to our dear Old Mother-Country than to say that this is all she expects from her daughter people, and from her sister Nations?

How beautiful is this thought, this elucidation of our present complexity, compared with the attitude assumed by so many aspirants to the Leadership of the public sentiments of Canada?

My complaint is against these so-called Leaders, and not against the People; and my efforts are not designed to direct the people whose own inherent appreciation of right and wrong, and whose own instincts of self-interest and self-preservation, will if left to themselves, inevitably find the proper path; but my efforts are designed to demolish the spurious pretexts by which the self-constituted Leaders have decoyed and deceived the people in the past; to demolish them so completely that they can never again be resurrected from the rubbish heap of discarded and disgraced shibboleths.

I am not speaking here as a party politician. I draw no distinction between the Leaders of one party, and another. Both of them appear to me equally culpable; for while those of one party pur-