

hon. leader of the Opposition. I submit that the inclusion in the government of the three gentlemen who represent the Nationalist party in Quebec will be a distinct disadvantage to the well-being of Canada as a whole. This leads me to a résumé of the naval affairs of this country during the last two or three years. I have taken a great deal of pleasure during the last two or three days in reading the speeches made by my hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce and my hon. friend the Prime Minister on the 29th of March, 1909, when the famous resolution was introduced into this House and carried, in favour of Canada starting on some sort of naval policy. I commend particularly the speech of the Minister of Trade and Commerce to the careful perusal of every member in the House, no matter whether he be a Liberal, a Conservative, or a Nationalist, and I wish it were placed before every elector of Canada and that they might read it in their calmer moments. If they did so, I think they would come to the conclusion that no finer sentiments and no more logical conclusions have ever been uttered or reached than those of the hon. member on that memorable occasion. It is wonderful, however, to consider the results of what have followed from the statements he made and the pictures he painted at that time.

My hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Foster) discussed in the first place the proposition I am making of a monetary contribution in support of a navy and in his own inimitable, logical manner pointed out first the advantages, and I think he marshalled every fact which could come to the support of that proposal, or the proposal to send a money contribution to the mother country. Having done so, he then took the other side of the picture, and he pointed out in the most masterly manner possible the disadvantages which he thought would flow from it, and concluded that the proper thing for Canada to do in the first place was that we must have some method or means of naval defence, and in the next place concluded that it must be by constructing our own navy, by becoming our own contractors and defenders, and in that way contribute not only to our own self support, but also to the support of the empire when necessity should demand. At the risk of being a little tedious I want to recall to my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Monk) and the members of this House the noble sentiments, and the logical sentiments, to my mind, put forth by him as contained in 'Hansard' at page 3496 on the 29th March, 1909. After discussing our isolated condition, after discussing the unpatriotic course of relying upon the Monroe doctrine for our defence after showing what we could do, he sums up in these words:

Mr. CARVELL.

Whatever may be necessary has to be collected and assembled and developed with such expedition and in such abundance as circumstances will allow. Under that system our first vessels would be British built, British equipped, British manned, British officered from stoker to captain. There is no other way in which we could proceed—

And I may say here, Sir, that under the policy carried out by the Liberal government we went to England and purchased two vessels, brought them here with certain British officers and certain British sailors. We formed a nucleus of a navy by means of training ships by which we could eventually become master of the situation ourselves.

We are absolutely bare of the skill, the experience, the training and the machinery necessary to put one single war vessel on a proper footing; but—and it is but the beginning of a circle—the first Canadian owned vessel, built and equipped in Britain, and sent out to defend our coasts would become the nucleus and the training ground of Canadian stokers, Canadian sailors, and Canadian officers, and by and by perhaps, of a Canadian Admiral on the Canadian coast. How much time would be taken in completing that circle none of us can say, but if we begin the tracing of it and follow it fairly and faithfully, the time must come when we get a complete service and have an imperial adjunct to the British navy for the defence of Canada and the defence of the empire in which Canada gives some of her body, her bones, her blood, and her mental power, her national pride.

And then my hon. friend went on further, and pictured the development of first of all repair plants, next shipbuilding plants, and finally of plants by which we could have commercial ships built as well as naval vessels. This is exactly the course which the late government followed. They did bring British vessels here, they started in to educate our own sons, to develop a Canadian navy, eventually to develop shipbuilding and repairing plants, and I submit that it is the only way of going to work, not only the only way, but it is the way which will eventually inspire all Canadians with the responsibility of their position, and make Canada an integral part of this empire. It will do that better than any other course that could be pursued. That was considered good politics by the members of that House, and the resolution moved by my hon. friend, as slightly amended, was unanimously passed by this House. My hon. friend the premier went to England and, as has been stated in this debate, he advocated and defended that principle at a public banquet in England. He came back to Halifax, and he advocated and defended the principle again, but in his absence certain of his jingo friends in Toronto had got in power, and finally he and his friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Foster) were compelled to