

enlistments to take place in this country. Well I do not think that statement will be satisfactory to our people, I do not think it will create much of a furore in the old country in our favour. I would like to have seen Canada pay for that contingent, and send it as a free gift to the motherland. Hon. gentlemen on the other side say that if we wish to make a contribution to England, if we wish to show our regard to the motherland, the way to do it is by giving a trade preference. Now I disagree with them entirely on that point. My idea is that the daughter state ought to recognize the mother country by standing by her in her hour of trial until the last dollar is spent, and in sending troops and men if necessary. A trade preference is not a contribution to the empire, it is a contribution to the manufacturers and workingmen of England at the expense of the manufacturers and workingmen of Canada.

Mr. CLARKE. To the manufacturers and workingmen of Germany, rather.

Mr. MACLEAN. And also to the manufacturers of Germany who come in by way of England. When hon. gentlemen say they have discharged their duty to the empire by giving the motherland that trade preference, and that consequently they were justified in sending the contingent over c.o.d., I take issue with them on both those points. I say it is just the other way: The contingents should be sent as a free gift, and there should have been no trade preference unless Canada got a trade preference of a similar character in return. But the empire to-day is being gradually welded together. Great Britain is passing to-day through a crisis, but the empire is gradually growing together. The people are looking forward to some kind of new movement, to some kind of new Imperial policy. Now what is that new Imperial policy to be? If there is one thing that is forcing itself upon the attention of the people of the whole empire, whether in Great Britain, or in Canada, or in Australia, it is that the empire must no longer be exploited for trade purposes by outside and hostile nations. That is something that is coming home to the people of the empire from one end of it to the other, and most of all it is coming home to the people of England, to the people of Canada, to the people of Australia—that the empire is not to be exploited any longer for trade purposes in favour of the workingmen and capitalists of the United States. That is the great fact that is coming home to the people of the empire whether in the old land or in Canada, and it is the people of Canada who have led the way in that respect.

Now the great argument is that the empire is to be Americanized, and Mr. Stead has led in advancing that argument in a book which he issued recently. He holds out that the empire is being Americanized in various ways and it is in danger of being

Americanized, it is in danger of being exploited for the benefit of the American people, of the American workingmen and the American farmers and capitalists. There is only one thing that is to prevent it, and what is that? I have made the suggestion before that I make now, I think it is a practical suggestion, and it is this: That the Canadian system of national policy should be expanded into an Imperial policy for the whole empire. It will mean, a revolution in the fiscal policy of the old land. But they have asked us to make suggestions, and I am taking the liberty of making this suggestion, that the people of the old land should change their fiscal policy and adopt what we have found here to be equal to the occasion. We say to them: Your country will not be exploited, the empire will not be Americanized, if you will adopt this system. I have some hope that they will do so. I believe if the suggestion is made to them, if the right hon. gentleman when he is asked to make suggestions next June, if he is true to his country, if he is true to the policy that he is carrying out here to-day, he will suggest to them that the national policy which has succeeded in Canada is applicable to the empire and will succeed for the empire, and will build it up in the same way. Now it may mean a great many changes. It may mean that England shall adopt customs duties, it may mean that England will have to adopt a system of export duties, or rebates, or reciprocal treaties, some of which she has already. It may mean that she will have to adopt reciprocity in tariffs, and it may mean that she will have to adopt all the things that protective nations have adopted. But if she does adopt them she will find that they will hold the empire together, and they will keep it from being exploited by those hostile nations, and there is no other way of doing it.

There is no other solution for the problem but for the empire to adopt some kind of protection, some system like the one we have here in Canada to-day. That protective system, that parental system, call it what you may, has succeeded in the United States. It has made the United States the greatest country in the world. It has put the United States in the position that it holds to-day, a menace to the trade of all the rest of the world, and it is certainly a menace to the trade of England. The trade of the United States is growing, the trade of England is declining; and there is only one way, to my mind, whereby a stop can be put to that state of things, and by which the empire can be built up, just as the different states of the American union were built up, and that is by the adoption of the principles of protection. I hope that when the Prime Minister goes over to England he will admit that he is a protectionist, that he is building up his country by customs duties, by rebates, by bounties on production, by subsidies to steamship lines, by the