

will rejoice your hearts and souls. Of course they do not designate what that policy will be, but they quote from the speeches of hon. gentlemen opposite to justify such a hope and expectation.

I was surprised to hear the hon. member for Calgary last evening refer to sectional appeals that have been made in this country and ascribe the same to certain of the Liberal party, with such a record as the party opposite has in that regard. Why, they are preparing the way now for more of the appeals which they made on the eve of the last election. They had in the last Dominion election campaign one policy for Quebec, and for Ontario they had another policy. The very manifesto that was issued by the Prime Minister of Canada himself had different language in it for circulation in the province of Quebec and in the other provinces. The Montreal papers report of the Borden manifesto contained words which did not appear in the general manifesto known as the Halifax platform. In the general manifesto to the people of Canada, Mr. Borden said on the naval question:—

Since the last general election the Government has entered upon a new line of policy in regard to the naval affairs which is of far-reaching importance. The policy adopted was not debated before the people during that election, and it bears all the ear-marks of a hasty and ill-considered scheme.

The plan of the Government contemplates the creation of a naval force that will be absolutely useless in time of war, and therefore, of no practical benefit to Canada or to the Empire.

The new platform as it appeared in the Montreal Gazette, that is the policy intended for consumption in Quebec contained the passage I have just quoted and in addition the following words:

In my judgment, our duty to the Empire cannot be properly or effectively fulfilled by such a measure. . . It will cost immense sums of money to build, equip and maintain. It will probably result in time of war in the useless sacrifice of many lives and it will not add an iota to the fighting strength of the Empire. The more it is considered the more does it become evident that the whole naval plan of the Government is an unfortunate blunder.

You will observe that in the Halifax platform there are not these words which I shall quote again:

It will cost immense sums of money to build, equip and maintain. It will probably result in time of war in the useless sacrifice of many lives and it will not add an iota to the fighting strength of the Empire. The more it is considered the more does it become evident that the old naval plan of the Government is an unfortunate blunder.

I ask why the reference to the sacrifice of lives was put in. Those who know the

base incendiary appeals made by the Nationalist wing of the Conservative party in Quebec can readily make reply to that question. Let me say that the speeches of hon. gentlemen opposite and the arguments put forward in their press indicate quite clearly that this naval question is to be used as a political football, that arguments of one kind will be used in one province and of another kind in the other provinces. I am reminded of the words of Artemus Ward who said that you can fool some of the people all of the time, you can fool all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. The appeal made by the Conservative party in 1911 is too fresh in the minds of the people to allow the game to be worked a second time. The duplicity and insincerity of the last election campaign is too fresh in the minds of the people to permit that. I have said that there is no emergency and no imminent danger or peril. It is unfortunate that we cannot get along without expenditures and armaments on land and sea.

Speaking personally and for my constituency, I may state that whilst they are loyal and devoted to the Empire, whilst if they thought for a moment that there was any danger to any part of the Empire, they would be prepared to hold up both hands for any reasonable expenditure, would be prepared that Canada should make any reasonable sacrifice and would gladly bear their share of it, still they do not, and will not, approve of sending out of the country such a large sum of money, when there is no occasion for it, and no good to England, or any one else, can come out of it. I must say that under present conditions it is unfortunate that we have to spend so much money on naval and military matters. It is unfortunate that we cannot spend that money for the development of the country when you consider how very little, proportionately, of our large and increasing revenue is spent on the basic industry of our country, agriculture, and how very much is spent, shall I say wasted, on military expenditure. We cannot but regret the condition that exists. However, as the country grows and develops it must have expenditures for military and naval purposes. They are necessary evils and their burden must be borne. The fathers of Confederation anticipated the necessity, for the British North America Act provides for military and naval defence. The first Militia Act was passed in 1863 when Sir George Etienne Cartier was minister. The matter of naval defence although provided for in the British North America Act, was not undertaken until 1910. At various colonial conferences this question was discussed. At the Imperial conference in 1902, Sir Wilfrid Laurier de-