

After Recess.

House resumed at eight o'clock.

DOMINION MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

On the order for private Bills:

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, before going into committee, I notice from the reports of yesterday's proceedings of the House, that some discussion took place with reference to Bill (No. 111), An Act respecting the Dominion Millers' Association. As I introduced this Bill to the House, and as several members want more information as to the particular features of it, I would suggest that the Bill be referred back to the Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills for further consideration, so that the questions raised by hon. members yesterday may be further considered in committee. I, therefore, move:

That Order No. 71, further consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bill (No. 111) an Act respecting the Dominion Millers' Association, be discharged and that the said Bill be referred back for further consideration to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills.

Motion agreed to.

NAVAL SERVICE OF CANADA.

House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion of Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the second reading of Bill (No. 95) respecting the naval service of Canada, the proposed amendment of Mr. Borden thereto, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Monk.

Mr. SCHAFFNER. Mr. Speaker, when you left the chair at six o'clock, I was dealing with the question as to whether there existed an emergency, and as to whether this country, if it believed that there was an emergency, should do something practical to meet it. In support of that proposition I was quoting authorities from both sides of politics in the old country, words that were spoken, not at a time of political contest, but at a time when the country could give a fair and just expression of opinion. I gave all the authorities to which I wished to refer except Lord Roberts. He said:

Recent events, however, prove conclusively that a new era has commenced, and that our whole empire may again have to fight for its own, as the people of these islands have many times had to do in the past. The question is: Are we prepared to do this? Fleets and effective armies cannot be improvised to meet the rapid movements of modern times. Nothing but forethought and preparation, extending over years, can give us a naval or military strength which may be relied on in any great emergency, and which is in itself the greatest guarantee of that peace which we desire and

need more than any other nation. I think I know what your main difficulty will be. It is not easy to convince the mass of the people in this country of the existence of real danger.

That is what Lord Roberts said, and I commend these words to my hon. friends on the other side of the House:

It may be even less easy to convince the populace of colonies that have enjoyed for a century protection, which has given them security from attack, that real dangers threaten them also. . . . The growth of the colonies in wealth makes them more and more objects of envy to nations which do not possess such valuable areas of the world. So, if we are to be secure, we must stand side by side in common effort and common sacrifice.

Mr. Asquith said:

After very anxious careful examination of the conditions of ship-building in foreign countries, the government have come to the conclusion that it is desirable to take all necessary steps to ensure that the second four ships referred to in the programme shall be completed by March, 1912.

I will not refer to any more of these authorities. I think this House and the country will agree with me that the authorities to which I have referred should go farther and mean more than the authority of the Postmaster General, the First Minister or any of the friends who support them.

Now, a word or two about loyalty. That is one of the subjects which our friends on the other side of the House would rather we should not refer to. It seems to be a tender spot in their make-up, but whose fault is it? It is not our fault. It is not pleasant to see that we are led by an hon. gentleman who has placed himself, by his own words, in a position with which I think, we have just reason to find fault, and in a position which we believe is not in the best interests of this country, which we believe leads to disintegration rather than to what we should all desire—consolidation. Now, I wish to refer to these remarks, because I, personally, am impressed with the sentiment that the Bill which is before the House leads directly to the separation of this country from the great empire. The right hon. the First Minister, speaking in Boston, said:

Canada would never consent to imperial federation even on commercial lines alone, because the consequence would be the participation of Canada in British wars,—

I shall have something to say about that later on.

—and Canada would never consent to participate in British wars.

I hold out to my fellow countrymen the idea of independence, but, whenever the day comes, it must come by the consent of both countries, and we shall continue to keep the good feeling and the good-will of the mother