MILITARISM

navy, for more ships, will derive its effectiveness from ship builders, not from seamen. It is to be classed with requests for bounties and with influences making for heavy expenditures. The way to meet it is by purifying our civil government.

I have completed my task. The air is filled in Canada with shoutings of this word "militarism." I submit that it is not militarism for Canada to prepare to defend herself. It is not militarism for her to spend money on her armed forces. It is not militarism for her to establish a navy. It would not be militarism for her to decide to help the Mother Country in military or naval matters. It would not be militarism for her to take part in world-wide politics, which are based upon latent appeals to organized force. Any one of these courses may be wrong or it may be right: but it is not militarism. It would be militarism if the government which directs our policy were permeated with a professional military element so that at every turn the tendency would be to shape policy in the interests of a professional military caste. There is as much likelihood of that in Canada as there is of the establishment of a titled landed aristocracy.

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