

The attitude of Canada on the question has hitherto been far from satisfactory, when compared with that of other Colonies. Indeed, it might well have been that of those who did not regard Canada as an integral portion of the British Empire, but as trying to shape out a destiny of its own. The European population of New Zealand is only about one-seventh that of Canada. Yet, in view of the gravity of the political situation in Europe, it recently offered "to bear the cost of immediate building and arming by the British Government of one first-class battleship of the latest type," and of a second one of the same type if necessary, "their sole aim being to assist the Empire as far as their resources permitted, in maintaining naval supremacy." New South Wales and Victoria offered a Dreadnought if the government of the Commonwealth would not act for all the states. Then the Commonwealth offered to the Empire an Australian Dreadnought. But the Canadian Parliament was satisfied with passing a resolution fully recognizing "the duty of the people of Canada to assume in larger measure the responsibility of *national defence*," and adding that "whenever the need arises the Canadian people will be found ready and willing to make any sacrifice required to give the Imperial authorities the most loyal and hearty co-operation in every movement to maintain the integrity and honor of the Empire." This, no doubt, marks a decided advance. But even yet its terms leave much to be desired. What is needed first of all is a full admission of responsibility for a fair share of imperial defence, and a clear and distinct utterance once for all of the Monroe Doctrine of Canada, that for good or ill its fortunes are bound up in those of the great empire to which it belongs, and that it is prepared