

cal reform through the death of its older members. There seems to be a desire in some quarters to lower the standing of this Senate before the country, and yet this Senate was the product of the Confederation of the provinces. Sir John Macdonald, one of the best men that Canada ever saw, worked out that great project, and he must have foreseen the difficulties which would arise when the majority in the Senate was in opposition to the Government of the day. It is not wise nor logical to foster in the minds of the people the idea that the Senate is useless, or obstructive. Such ideas can accomplish no good.

In speaking of the prosperity of the country reference has been made to our growing wealth. But where is the growing wealth of the ordinary man, the hewer of wood and drawer of water? Protection has not helped him. Long years ago we gave protection to the manufacturers, so as to enable them to get on their feet and put them in a position to compete with the manufacturers in other countries. That was class legislation, introduced by the Conservative party. I was afraid of the Conservative party. I was allied with the party as long as I could, but I had to leave it. And I shall only continue with the Liberal party so long as I consider its policy in the interest of the country. There are conditions in this country which must be met, and which will be met when another election takes place. The people will decide whether this country is to be run by titled gentlemen, and men of wealth. This country is democratic, and its people will not be satisfied with any party which does not look after their interests. With coal at \$9 a ton how is the poor man to keep his house warm? How is he to supply the needs of his family under present conditions? The difficulty must be met in some way. Protection is, of course, largely in the interests of the bankers, for if the manufacturers go down the bankers lose their money. I noticed the other day that, notwithstanding the tightness of the money market in Canada, thirty-five millions in Canadian money had gone to New York. We should take a high stand in this country and have faith in the greatness of our destiny. There is no reason why Canada should not have one hundred million people by the end of the century.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE.

I doubt the expediency of borrowing money to build dreadnoughts. I cannot see the soundness of the financial side of the proposition. I can understand that the armour plate makers want us to build war ships, but I cannot see how capitalists generally can approve of lending us money for such purpose. I do not want to bring myself to the front, but I remember at one time I proposed to raise a regiment to go to the Soudan. The regiment was not to consist of Liberals or Conservatives, they were young men who were willing to go to the Soudan to fight for the empire. We got a steamer, and the British Government accepted us, but Sir Charles Tupper would not let us go. Instead of our regiment going, the Australians went. There was every evidence that Canada was willing to do her share, but there was also every evidence that Sir Charles Tupper would not let a Canadian contingent go. It is on record in the official reports of the House of Commons that the regiment I was raising was not permitted to go. I was going out to command it, and I suppose Sir Charles thought I would get too much credit. I suppose it was the result of jealousy. There were other Canadians who offered to raise men, and send them at their own expense. Canada was not asked to contribute anything, but the Government would not let the regiments go. I am not here to defend Sir Wilfrid Laurier because he can defend himself better than I could, but I have heard him accused in this House of being slow in sending contingents to South Africa. That sort of thing does not help the party that resorts to it.

As to the declining representation of the Maritime provinces in the House of Commons, I fear we cannot get around the situation. We went into Confederation, we made our bed, and we must lie on it. We have before us two things, the great West which is going to build up and make Canada great, and the East which will handle the traffic that comes from the country lying between British Columbia and Montreal.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK moved that the debate be adjourned.

The members were called in, and the Senate divided on the motion, which was adopted.

Contents:

Beith,	King,
Bolduc,	Legris,
Bostock,	McKay (Cape Breton),