

not in war times, if we were living now in times of peace, I would remind these gentlemen opposite that that policy contributed in no small degree to the era of prosperity which it was the good fortune of the Liberal party, under Providence, to bring to this country. I would remind them that four years ago, when we wanted, not to let well enough alone, but to make well enough better than it was, when we wanted to improve our trade relations with our neighbours in the United States, one of the arguments of our opponents was that freer trade with the United States meant the prevention of freer trade with Great Britain. I would remind them that there are only two countries with which we trade to any great extent, Great Britain and the United States, and I would call the attention of the House to the strange conduct of the victorious party who four years ago would not let us sell to the United States and who this year will not let us buy from Great Britain.

"At Best a German Conception."

"But these are war times, and it is not the occasion to discuss economic problems. Great Britain is at war, Canada is at war, and when Great Britain is at war and when Canada is at war, to attempt to curtail the trade between Canada and Great Britain is not a Canadian idea; it is at best a German conception. When Parliament met on the 4th of February last we were prepared to go far with our friends on the other side of the House in these strenuous times; we were prepared to give up a good many of our own ideas in order to meet them; we were prepared to make sacrifices in order to have unanimity of opinion, but we were not prepared to go that far, and that far we shall not go. To-day, therefore, we have to part company with them, and for these reasons I move, seconded by Dr. Pugsley:

"This House is ready to provide for the exigencies of the present situation and to vote all necessary ways and means to that end, but it regrets that in the measure under consideration duties are imposed which must be oppressive on the people whilst yielding little or no revenue, and that the said measure is particularly objectionable in the fact that instead of favouring, it is placing extra barriers against Great Britain's trade with Canada, at a moment when the Mother Country is under a war strain unparalleled in history."

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