

sition, and all that could be expected from a man not in office.

That was the Liberal-Conservative leader's policy in 1909; that is the Liberal-Conservative leader's policy to-day.

The Prime Minister now states that we cannot build ships in Canada but that argument has been dispelled. Look what Canada has done in all parts of the country. When we started other industrial enterprises, we had difficulties to contend with; we had to import skilled labour from abroad and these people coming here educated our own people, and to-day in the various establishments throughout the country we have Canadians employed in the most responsible positions. The same thing can happen with ship-building and the building of warships. We may at first have to get technically trained men from abroad, but we are willing to pay for the knowledge and experience and we are willing to learn. We have in the province of Nova Scotia one of the finest system of technical schools to be found on the Continent, and with the advantage afforded by that educational system it will only be a short time until our own people will be able to perform the most skilled and difficult work that will be required of them. We have had experience in the case of Sydney and the steel works there. When the steel works were started in Sydney a number of people said: oh the thing cannot go, it is too complicated, and we have not the men to carry on the industry to a successful issue. The steel people had to import men from England, and Germany, and the United States, and for the first few years these foreigners did the more technical part of the work, but to-day this immense establishment in Sydney, giving employment to thousands of men, paying thousands of dollars in wages every day, and besides that affording a market to our farmers for their products, is practically run and managed by native-born Nova Scotians than whom there are not to be found, the world over, more capable, efficient and proficient men. Why cannot the same thing be done in so far as a steamship-building industry is concerned? Let me quote the words of the Hon. Geo. E. Foster in this regard:

It seems to me that with the immense grain-producing and meat-producing resources of Canada, with our immense productive power in other respects, with our sea and water privileges, the imagination can scarcely grasp the commerce that waits for Canadian vessels, manned by Canadian crews, and a mighty instrument of expansion and wealth to be held almost completely in our own hands. But to accomplish that purpose we must build steel vessels. Take Great Britain and go around its coasts where ship-building is carried on from Newcastle to the Clyde what are the great forces at work? The building of warships is the strong encouragement of the steel and iron commercial ship-building in Great

Britain to-day. The two are joined. The one works into and out from the other. I say that steel ship-building inaugurated in this country developed to the capacity of turning out war vessels would not only benefit Canada, but Great Britain as well.

It is an insult to the intelligence of Canadians to say that we cannot succeed in the ship-building industry. If this industry were established in Canada, it would mean a market for our farmers, for our producers generally, and give employment to our people. It would mean the spending of millions of money in this country itself. I am surprised that any Conservative and a supporter of the National Policy should decry this proposal; I am surprised to find any Canadian so lacking in confidence in this country and so pessimistic as to say that we cannot build ships in Canada. And, suppose it does cost twenty-five per cent more to build the ships in Canada, the money will be spent in Canada and the benefits that will flow from, and directly and indirectly result from, that expenditure will mean industrial activity and development in Canada a considerable share of which the maritime provinces may expect. Hon. gentlemen opposite say that the building of a Canadian navy is a separatist policy. Well, it is not so long ago since it was advocated by the present Prime Minister and by the leading Conservative organs and exponents of Tory thought throughout the country, and then they did not call it a separatist policy. There can be no separation, so long as the people of this country have the right to manage their own affairs within their own country. So long as they have that right they will be loyal and devoted to the Motherland, and there will be no party of separation in Canada. You cannot have separation until you create dissatisfaction. I can quote Winston Churchill and various other British statesmen to show that this talk of a Canadian navy being a separatist policy is the most contemptible kind of talk and is a gratuitous insult to the people of Canada. It is a reflection upon their loyalty and it is about time that kind of thing should stop. As was pointed out by the hon. member for Bonaventure, when responsible government was advocated in this country, the cry was made by the Conservatives of that day, the predecessors of the Conservatives who are making the same cry now, that it was disloyal to advocate responsible government in Canada. Would you believe it that Lord Stanley, then colonial secretary of the Conservative government in Great Britain, said with reference to responsible government as advocated in Canada:

Place the Governor of Canada in a state of absolute dependence on his Council, and they at once would make Canada an independent and republican colony. It was inconsistent with a monarchical government that the Governor should be nominally responsible,