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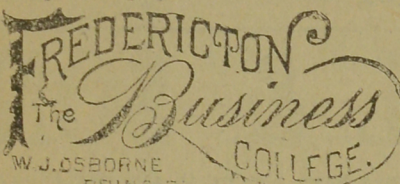
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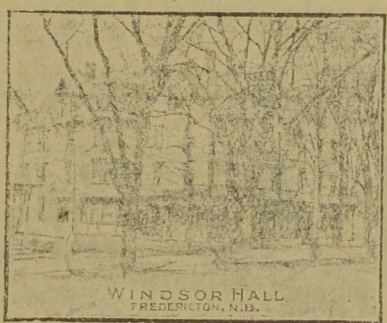
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ed the allied Russian and Austrian
armies at Austerlitz.
1808—Madrid taken by the French
and King Joseph restored.
1848—Francis Joseph succeeded
Ferdinand as emperor of Austria.Hon. William Pugsley
On Naval Question

AWAITED ELECTION

Hon. William Pugsley in his speech
in the Dominion House of Commons
on November 29, dealt with the naval
question as follows:"The House will cordially approve
of any necessary expenditure design-
ed to promote the organization of a
Canadian naval service in co-opera-
tion with and in close relation to the
imperial navy, along the lines sug-
gested by the admiralty at the last
imperial conference, and in full sym-
pathy with the view that the naval
supremacy of Great Britain is essen-
tial to the security of commerce, the
safety of the empire and the peace
of the world."The House expresses its firm con-
viction that whenever need arises the
Canadian people will be found ready
and willing to make any sacrifice
that is required to give to the im-
perial authorities the most loyal and
heartily co-operation in every move-
ment for the maintenance of the in-
tegrity and the honor of the em-
pire."In view of that resolution unani-
mously passed, in the session of 1909
when my right hon. friend (Sir Wil-
frid Laurier) was leading the govern-
ment of this country, expressing so
strongly the loyal sentiments of the
people of this country, irrespective
of party, would it not have been well
if in the speech from the throne re-
ference had been made to that resolu-
tion, instead of conveying the im-
pression that now, for the first time,
was the government of this country
asking parliament to do its duty to-
wards the defence of the empire? I
have not a shadow of doubt that that
resolution expresses the almost uni-
versal sentiments of the people of
this country.

PERMANENT POLICY.

I am glad that my hon. friend the
minister of trade and commerce (Mr.
Foster) has been able to return before
we entered upon a discussion of the
naval question. Let me express the
hope that in council he will urge upon
his colleagues that we should now
engage upon a policy, a truly Cana-
dian naval policy, a policy which
will be permanent in its character,
the strength of which will increase
as the years go by, and by which we
will be able, in time of stress, to
render all necessary aid to the em-
pire, and to have a navy which will
co-operate with the imperial navy
and be of material assistance not
only to Canada, but to the empire
as well. Let us express the hope
that the minister of trade and com-
merce will urge upon his colleagues
what he so eloquently urged in 1909,
that we should do our duty by Cana-
da and the empire with our ships
and with our own men and that we
should not hire other people to do
our work.In view of the resolution passed
on the 26th of March, 1909, the late
government entered into communica-
tion with the British admiralty, took
all the pains possible to get informa-
tion as to what should be done for
the purpose of carrying out the resolu-
tion and as a result of the commu-
nications and conferences which
took place, tenders were invited for
the construction of a number of
cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers.
Those tenders were received some
months before the election of Sep-
tember 1911. After the tenders
came in it was necessary, of course,
to consult the British admiralty in
order to find out what confidence the
admiralty reposed in the different
builders and also to examine into
their financial standing and ability
to carry out their contracts. For
that purpose one or two of the min-
isters went to England, conferred
with the admiralty and just before
the elections our government would
have been prepared to intelligently
award the contract upon the tenders
which had been received. There were,
I am glad to say, a number of ten-
ders from firms who stand pre-em-
inent among the shipbuilders of the
motherland, firms who had been en-
trusted by the admiralty with the
building of the greatest battleships
of the British navy, a number of
these firms were quite willing to
come to Canada, to establish ship-
yards in our country, to employ
Canadian labor, to utilize Canadian
material and to build ships just as
good and as well suited to the pur-
poses of the navy as any which
could be built in British shipyards.If that reason were true, how fool-
ish it would have been for Japan to
have undertaken the construction of
a navy, and how foolish for the
United States; both of which coun-
tries have navies which are almost
equal to any of the navies of the
world. In the memorandum which
Admiral Kingsmill presented, he sug-
gested that it would be well to have
two or three ships built in England,
and in the meantime the yards could
be prepared in this country, and the
building of other vessels could be
carried on here. We know very well
that changes are taking place, but
two of these ships were to be built
every eighteen months in order to
complete the entire contract within
the six years. The privilege would
be reserved in the contract to make
any modifications which the admiral-
ty or the minister of the marine and
fisheries might require, and, under
the ordinary terms of the con-
tract if there was any reduction in
cost, the contractor should get the
benefit of it, and, if there was any
increase in cost, it should be paid
by the country. Therefore, I think
the reason which was given by the
hon. the minister of marine and
fisheries for striking this blow
not only at St. John, but at thewhole of Canada, is not a reason
that will appeal to the judgment of
a sensible man who gives any
thought or study to this important
subject.

BUILDING THE NAVY

But, let me say further, Mr. Speaker
that by reason of the resolu-
tion that was unanimously passed
by this parliament in 1909, it was
believed that it would be the policy
of this country to proceed with the
building and maintenance of a Cana-
dian navy, and great firms were in-
duced to look to this country. Un-
der my department while I was min-
ister of public works a contract was
entered into the Messrs. Vickers,
Sons & Maxm, one of the greatest
shipbuilding firms in the world, for
the building of a dry dock at Mont-
real. That dry dock has arrived, it
has been placed in position
under the contract which we
entered into, and I do not believe,
from what I know of the communi-
cations which took place with that
firm, that they would have entered
into that contract, or that they
would have built and brought to the
port of Montreal that great dry
dock unless they had had reason to
believe that it would be the settled
policy of this country to construct
the Canadian navy, to have ships
built in Canada. I am told that right
alongside of the dry dock there is
ample room to place a shipbuilding
plant, and that they would be pre-
pared almost immediately to enter
upon the construction of battleships,
cruisers and smaller vessels for the
imperial government and they would
be quite prepared, so I am told to
engage in this work in Canada. So
also upon the Pacific coast there is
a shipbuilding firm engaged in the
construction of smaller vessels, ves-
sels of the character that will be
required only they will require to be
upon a large scale, and it will not
take very long to establish a ship-
building plant upon the Pacific coast
at which the largest vessels can be
built. The same thing applies at the
port of Sydney. When the late gov-
ernment were in power, plans were sub-
mitted and proposals were made for
the construction of a great dry dock
there, and it is recognized universally
that the port of Sydney would be an
admirable place for the building of
ships.

BETTER POLICY

In view of these facts, while we
have no information as to what will
be the course which the government
will ask parliament to pursue, let me
express to the house and I do
it with all sincerity, the hope that
the policy which was laid down and
unanimously agreed to in the session
of 1909 will not be departed from,
and that we shall now begin in Cana-
da upon a large scale as the neces-
sities of empire may require, the
building of a Canadian navy which
can be strengthened, and added to
from year to year, so that the navy
will be a source of real strength to
the empire in time of danger. No
matter what others may think, I am
of the opinion that if the government
does what the newspapers have been
repeatedly suggesting it intends to
do, that is to give a contribution in
money to the imperial admiralty,
and so hire the people of England to
do, as the hon. minister of trade and
commerce told us that we ought to
have the courage to do ourselves, I
am satisfied that such a course will
not meet with the approval
of the people of Canada. I am
thoroughly satisfied that what
the people of Canada want is that
we shall show our strength and our
courage and that we shall move for-
ward along Canadian lines and build
a Canadian navy of the necessary
strength for the service of the empire.

ON GREAT LAKES.

I forgot to mention Mr. Speaker,
that upon the Great Lakes they have
also gone into steel shipbuilding. I
have had the pleasure of being at
Collingwood, and I have seen magni-
ficent steel vessels turned out of the
yard there 500 and 600 feet in length,
equipped with the most powerful en-
gines, and equal to any of the ves-
sels of the kind built in any ship-
yard in Great Britain. The same
skill, knowledge and enterprise will
enable these builders to construct ves-
sels of smaller size which may be
brought down the lakes, such as tor-
pedo boat destroyers and torpedo
boats. So that on the Atlantic and
Pacific coast and on the Great Lakes
we have the knowledge, we have the
skill, and I am sure we have the
courage to enter upon this work and
to do our duty, a duty which de-
volves upon us as a part of the great
empire to which we belong.

THE NATIONALISTS.

Let me beg my hon. friends oppo-
site to reconsider their relations
with the Nationalist party of Que-
bec. The hon. postmaster general
admits that those gentlemen who
were their allies but a short time
ago, during the elections of 1911,
have demanded of him that he should
pursue a course which, in his judg-
ment, might lead to civil war. LetSO NERVOUS, HE
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Limited, Ottawa.we call his attention to the fact that
the only reason—and he knows it,
and all hon. gentlemen upon the
other side of the House know it—
why this government is not prepared
today to bring down a permanent
policy for adding to the naval
strength of the empire is because
they have made a pledge to the Na-
tionalists that they will not do so
until they submit the question to the
people. My hon. friend has parted
company with some of those who are
most disloyal in their utterances.
Let me implore him, let me implore
his colleagues and let me implore the
right hon. prime minister, in the in-
terest of the empire, to go still
further and break entirely away from
the Nationalists and refuse to be
bound by the secret pledge which
they gave when they came in, that
the question should be first submit-
ted to the people. My hon. friend
knows that while the ministers were
in England making those silly and
mischievous speeches, speeches al-
most as mischievous as that which
the hon. minister of militia (Mr.
Hughes) made in British Columbia in
his reference to Germany, they were
not making those speeches in order
to influence the loyal people of this
country. The people of Canada, from
the shores of the Atlantic to the
Pacific, need no urging to give aid
to the empire, but all those speeches
were made for the benefit of the
Nationalist wing of the Conservative
party in Quebec. They were made
for my hon. friend from Jacques
Cartier (Mr. Monk); they were made
for others. They did not have the
desired effect upon him and, so far
as we have observed from the state-
ments in the newspapers, they have
not yet had an effect upon the Na-
tionalist wing of the party generally.
They still demand that that secret
pledge shall be carried out, and that
this government shall not engage
upon a permanent policy for the de-
fence of the empire until the question
has first been submitted to the peo-
ple. But in the meantime, they are
going, so the newspapers say, to
make a contribution of money, be-
cause they have discovered an emer-
gency. Well, we do not know what
the papers will disclose, but I ven-
ture to say that my hon. friends the
ministers who went to England went
there hunting for an emergency and
if our information is correct, they
have not found it yet. My hon.
friend the member for Brandon (Mr.
Aikens) also went over and, always
anxious to assist the government of
which he is so prominent a support-
er, he went to Germany to see if he
could find something there. When he
came back he told the people that
Germany and England were actually
at war.Mr. Aikens—Where did my hon.
friend find such a statement?Mr. Pugsley—I saw it in several
Conservative papers.Mr. Aikens—Will my hon. friend
read the exact words contained in
those papers, or the statement in
effect?Mr. Pugsley—Yes. The statement
which my hon. friend was reported
to have made was that he had been
over in Germany and in England,
and that the two people were today
actually at war.

(Continued on page seven.)

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