

However, the call for a regiment of 1,000 or 1,200 men was answered by over 4,000 men of French Canadian descent from the province of Quebec.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—So that if we found on the first of August, a certain state of mind running through the whole of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, quite justifiable because of our long series of years of peace, we find to-day the population ready to follow in the footsteps of the British-born; and I am glad to say that in this struggle in which Great Britain, France, Belgium, Russia and Servia are engaged, and which represents the defence of all our ideals, the province of Quebec and the French-speaking part of that province will do its share as largely and as liberally as any part of the English and Canadian-born throughout Canada.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. LEGRIS: Hon. gentlemen of the Senate. I had no intention whatever of speaking in this Chamber to-day. Being fully aware of the ability and eloquence of the hon. gentlemen who have preceded me, I did not think it would be advisable for me to rise from my seat.

The hon. senator for Tignish, (Hon. Mr. Murphy) who moved the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, made a speech worthy of this Chamber and of the position which he occupies. Hon. Senator Girroir, whom we are always pleased to hear in this Senate, has proven that he is equally fluent and eloquent in both the official languages of this country. This is an excellent note in his favour and I heartily congratulate him.

The two party leaders in this House have not surprised us. We are used to their eloquence and the sound and judicious addresses they have just delivered is an additional claim to the confidence of their followers in the Senate.

It would be presumption on my part to endeavour to add anything to what they have said with a much greater eloquence than I can command.

On the subject of war, there is but one voice and one sentiment in this country, and that sentiment is in line with the reasons so eloquently expressed by the leader of the Government, in order to secure to the whole world a durable and humane peace. But there is another matter to which I desire to call the attention of this

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.

honourable House: this country is now in a most critical financial position. From one end of it to the other, the crisis is terrible. In most of the eastern cities the distress is appalling; the situation in the West is alarming. I am ready to admit that the present situation has been accentuated by the European war, but it seems clear to me that we were already in the crisis before the declaration of war. We are now summoned, if we judge by the Speech from the Throne, simply to vote millions and hundreds of millions to the Government. No measure is announced to show us that the ministers realize the distress of the Canadian people. There is but one thought; the securing of millions for war purposes.

The business of the country seems to be forgotten, as though we were to cease living until peace is signed, or as though the earth were going to be at a standstill while the guns are pouring shells over Europe.

In conclusion, allow me to say, hon. gentlemen, that I would have been pleased if the Government had announced its intention of adopting some means of allaying the distress of the Canadian people.

If the Government had adopted this course, I feel convinced that they would have received the unanimous support of this Senate, and also the millions asked for war purposes.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until three o'clock tomorrow.

THE SENATE.

Wednesday, February 10, 1915.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

INCORPORATION OF COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

FIRST READING.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE introduced Bill (A), An Act to amend the Act respecting the incorporation of companies.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Will the hon. gentleman explain?

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—This Bill should commend itself to the House. It is simply