

ing they have given their ballots to a certain officer. Are those ballots to be counted?

Hon. Mr. DAVIS—If a shell struck the ballot box what would happen?

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Why cannot hon. gentlemen see how absurd the Bill is in all its particulars? Not alone with regard to the principle of the Bill, but in its provisions. I put that to the country. As far as I am concerned, I would just as soon see a good dead soldier vote as many a live Tory in this country; and if we only had the opportunity to go among those poor soldiers in the trenches and tell them what had happened and what has been uncovered and unveiled in the parliamentary committees of investigation in this country, not only would they turn their ballots against the Government, but I would not blame them if they would turn their rifles. I want to say this right here now, that the Conservative pet, the Canadian manufacturer, has sent more men to the grave, has sent more men to the hospital, has put more men into a state of ill-health and bad condition, than all the German bullets and shrapnels since the beginning of August last.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS—That is true.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—More men have gone home to die—oh, they didn't have a chance to go home and die, they have died in the camps, they have died in the fields from diseases contracted in those camps due to the treatment they received at the hands of the Government and their manufacturers. They have perished from pneumonia, colds, meningitis and all other diseases due to the wanton, to the cruel treatment they have received under military discipline such as we have had. If with an appropriation of \$50,000,000 we could not get fair treatment and sound medical treatment for the soldiers, and good footwear and good horses, what are we going to get with the \$100,000,000 we voted yesterday? What guarantee has the country that the \$100,000,000 voted by this Parliament for special war purposes will be better spent—that the soldiers will get the benefit of it?

What guarantee have these men, who are leaving their homes and families to uphold the honour of the country and secure the safety of the Empire that they will receive proper treatment? Put the question to the volunteers, the men under arms

in the cities by thousands, every day drilling, and ask them if they want this legislation and want a vote. Ask the regiments and battalions throughout the Dominion, and I venture to say that you would not get two out of ten who would say, "We want the ballot, and affidavit and want to vote." I am not afraid of the legislation. I think it would redound to the interests of the Liberal party if it went on the statute-book, but that is not the question which we have to consider. It is not a question of party advantage I am looking for, it is a question of the honour of the country. Lord Kitchener and the officers of the British Army must laugh at the stupidity of Parliament in regard to the expenditure of Canadian money for the militia, we are held up to ridicule in the best military circles in England and Europe, and we are now going to place ourselves at the top of the ladder of ridicule. We are going to give to dead men the right to cast their ballots, and we are going to ask men in the hospitals to vote. How can the returning officer find all the men who have served under the British flag? How can he find them in hospitals or ships sailing the straits or the British channel or ocean? Still these poor sufferers have as much right to vote as anybody else. Are they to be neglected. Who is going to be sent with a ballot to them. I mention all these facts to show the absolute absurdity of the Bill. It is utterly impracticable. It should not be put on the statute-book of our country. For all these reasons, and for the principal reason that a soldier of Canada is a soldier of England, and like Lord Kitchener is not asking for the ballot, but says, "I am a soldier of the King, and I am no party man." I shall vote against this Bill.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK moved the adjournment of the debate until to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED moved that when the Senate adjourn to-day it do stand adjourned until to-morrow at 10.30 a.m.

The motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—I object. The hon. gentleman has given no notice of that.

The Senate adjourned until 10.30 a.m. to-morrow.