

doors closed and a nervous watch on the windows, and in bated breath, Mr. J. F. Mackay would expatiate on the machinations of the Pope and the necessity of defeating them by defeating Laurier. If the visitor did not appear to be sufficiently impressed, he was passed on to Mr. J. E. Atkinson of the Star, who would then exercise his slimy arts to complete what the less adroit Mr. Mackay had begun. And so the game was played throughout the land.

All this, Sir, was bad enough, but the turning of the churches into political cockpits was the crowning infamy of the whole campaign. Their pulpits were thrown open to laymen as well to clergymen; and in some cases were occupied by individuals more competent to expound the doctrines of the Sodomites than to preach the gospel of the Prince of Peace. And why was all this done? Merely to arouse the rest of the country against Quebec and the Catholics for the sake of winning the election. Mr. Speaker, was there ever such a defilement of the House of God in any other land under the sun? I know of none, and for the sake of Christianity itself I hope there has been none.

Lest the women voters were not as highly inflamed as their male relatives, special appeals to their fears and passions and prejudices were made on the eve of the election. Perhaps the most inflammatory of these appeals, as it certainly was the most grotesquely false, was published by the Canadian Home Journal in its December issue. After moralizing on the tragic importance of the issue to be decided on December 17, it proceeded thus:

Germany's reptile diplomacy uses many agencies in many lands, and the most important agency that it is to-day using on Canadian soil is the Roman Catholic Church.

No proof of this outrageous statement is offered, or attempted to be offered, but it is followed by these equally brilliant gems:

Lamentable as the fact is it is nevertheless a fact to be faced. As a consequence we find Roman Catholic Churches in Canada head centres of activity to place in power those whose policies aim at the withdrawal of Canada from the war, the desertion of our soldiers at the front and the betrayal of Great Britain.

And listen to this Mr. Speaker:

By what promises and devices the Kaiser's Government has secured the support of the Roman Catholic Church is not wholly clear.

Not then and not now.

He has promised to restore the Temporal home of the Pope in Europe and if victorious to extend his influence to South America.

[Mr. Murphy.]

It is altogether probable that he has promised his aid in extending the powers the Church now enjoys in the province of Quebec to all Canada.

The women of Canada are religious by nature. They are the backbone of our Churches. Let them remember what is at stake.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his candidates exalt the traitor and condemn the soldier. It is for the womenfolk of the soldier to give them their answer at the polls.

Canada is menaced by open foes in Europe and insidious foes at home. To vote for Union Government is the woman's paramount duty,—the duty of the hour.

Mr. Speaker, could anything be more dastardly or criminal than the article from which I have just quoted?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. MURPHY: And yet the writer of that article not only goes unpunished but I have no doubt he enjoys many a chuckle over his contribution to the devil's brew with which the Union Government filled, and maddened and misled a too-credulous public.

So that no doubt may remain in the mind of any honest man or woman as to the issue upon which the Union Government sought and obtained office, let me quote from a full front page article which appeared in the Orange Sentinel of December 20th, 1917, under the caption, "Sound the Loud Timbrel":

A crushing defeat for the Roman Catholic Hierarchy of Quebec and their allies in the other provinces is the result of the polling on Monday.

The whole election campaign was fought upon the lines of the programme of the Orange Association. For the first time in the life of the dominion a union Protestantism followed the lead of the Orangemen of Canada to a magnificent victory over reactionary forces whose triumph would have disgraced the country. The great Order which the Sentinel represents has reason for gratification in having at last won that recognition from the Loyalists of the country which it has long deserved.

There you have a declaration after the event written by a gentleman who was endorsed by the Prime Minister as his candidate in West Toronto, and who now represents that constituency in this House. The Prime Minister has not in any way challenged or repudiated that declaration. As he endorsed the candidature of the man who wrote it, he will be held to have endorsed the declaration as well, and the public will judge him accordingly.

In view of the facts that I have presented, what becomes of the hollow pretense that the Government's election appeal was solely for the purpose of obtaining re-inforcements for the boys at the