

was exposed to the abuse of the Liberals anywhere and at any time.

Honourable gentlemen, I did not intend to deal at such length with this matter, but it must be admitted that we are all men, and that when you start a row you never know where it will end.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It looks like that. does it not?

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: Yes. The other day I interrupted the honourable gentleman when he was quoting a certain phrase which has been used by the members from the province of Quebec. But mark you, that during the whole election of 1917 the entire press, save two newspapers, were in the hands of these gentlemen—I am forgetting one, *Le Devoir*, Mr. Bourassa's organ.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Your old leader.

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: There is one thing I want to say about Mr. Bourassa: I respected him, I believed in him, and I followed him; and when I followed him I did not stay in a private office to attend to the organization; I slept in the cold and faced the electors on the stump and fought for him. The day came when we did not see eye to eye, and I left him; but I know whom I have left. I know what Mr. Bourassa thinks, and I know he is not afraid of saying what he thinks. It is strange that so long as he is fighting the Liberal party—and when I refer to the Liberal party I want to say that I am not referring to the Liberal party of the Dominion of Canada, for there is a great difference between the real Liberals and the Liberals of the province of Quebec. So long as Mr. Bourassa is attacking them he is the worst man in the world; they have nothing dirty enough to say against him; but whenever Mr. Bourassa happens to play in their hands, what a great man he is! It is my firm belief that it was not Mr. Bourassa who was responsible for the troubles of 1917: it was the Liberal party. Had Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party honestly played the game in Quebec, there was no Bourassa and nobody else to prevent the people from understanding what the issue was, and there would have been no trouble in my province.

I was reported to have said a certain thing at a certain time. The war is over, and we are facing the consequences of the war: we are looking for reorganization—reorganization in our financial and industrial life; reorganization in our manner of thinking and in the political field; re-

organization everywhere. That is the question of to-day; that is the question of to-morrow. I do not care, honourable gentlemen, what I said two years, three years, or ten years ago. If I am reported some day as having been the very devil himself, I am willing to admit it; but I want my opponents to report me exactly and to tell me where I was. That is all there is to it. I am reported as having made a speech at twenty different places. I heard the honourable gentleman from Arthabaska (Hon. Mr. Lavergne) state that the speech was made on the hustings at Arthabaska. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. LAVERGNE: Go on.

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: I want to know that.

Hon. Mr. LAVERGNE: Go on. I have nothing to say now. I will speak after you.

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: Was it made at Arthabaska?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: You ought to know yourself.

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: I do know it myself, and I tell you honourable gentlemen who report me wrongly that you do not know what you say. I am not ashamed of what I said, and even if I said awful things I am not worried about them. The only thing that worries me is that I should do my duty to-day and be wiser to-day than I was yesterday. Not long ago my honourable friends of the province of Quebec attended a Liberal conference in Ottawa, and what was the great, the special title of the present leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons? To commend himself to the people of the province of Quebec it was stated that he was a grandson of the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie, who—well, was a kind of rebellious personage. Even if my honourable friend were to prove that I have been a rebel, I could reply that even the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie and Sir George Etienne Cartier had a price put on their heads, and it would not strengthen his case. But the only thing the Canadian people care for to-day is to know where the honourable gentlemen who call themselves the Liberal party stand on the tariff question—whether they are in favour of protection or whether they are against it; whether they are free traders or whether they are protectionists.

This Government has proved its mettle. We have been at war for practically five