

Of course, I am not saying that those who are doing it should go there; but it is in the face of these facts that a group of business men, the very biggest business men in Montreal, signed a letter which appeared in the Montreal Gazette. That paper is,

in my mind, the best Conservative paper that we have in our province, or perhaps in the country. It is a reliable paper. There is one honourable gentleman who has just recently been admitted to this House who would be glad to hear what I have to say about it. I do not believe that paper would have published this letter and the editorial which accompanied it if they had not been sincere. It is true that they have been silent since.

Then, take the Toronto Globe, which passed as the Bible with the good Presbyterians in Ontario for many years. You do not see any flamboyant titles about this deal in it. Why does not the Globe come out? However, here are the names of the gentlemen who signed this protest. First is F. W. Molson, a director of Molsons Bank, a director of the City and District Savings Bank, and a very prominent man in Montreal. The next is Huntley R. Drummond, a director of the Bank of Montreal, president of the Canada Sugar Company, and a son of the late Sir George A. Drummond, many years one of the strongest Conservatives in this House. When there are Conservative gatherings in Montreal he is always the first to be there; nevertheless he saw fit to send this protest to the Government. These big business men do not put their names on paper before the public unless they think there is a big emergency. The next name is Zeph. Hébert, President of the Board of Trade of the city of Montreal, president of Hébert & Company, one of the largest wholesale houses in this country, which has a turnover in excess of \$3,000,000 a year. Next is Mr. A. J. Brown, K. C., director of the Royal Bank and of many large commercial enterprises; a man who is supposed to be a great commercial lawyer and the confidential adviser of some of our biggest men in Montreal. I have known men of very great importance who have said that unless A. J. Brown put his initials to a document, it would not do. The next is H. A. Ekers, who was mayor of Montreal by acclamation, a very powerful man in Montreal, twice Conservative candidate in that city, and even at the risk of displeasing his party—and I am sure he would not like to do that under the present circumstance—he put his name to this letter. Next is Mr. Charles Chaput, president of Charles Chaput & Co. Then there is Mr. Charles Meredith, pres-

ident of Meredith & Co., the leading bond house in Montreal. To show you the importance of this company, I may say that its vice-president is Sir Charles B. Gordon, vice-president of the Bank of Montreal, who was singled out for honours by His Majesty for services rendered during this war. The next is C. S. Campbell, K.C., the great commercial lawyer, a son of Sir Alexander Campbell, who at one time was leader of the Government in this House, and Minister of Justice under Sir John Macdonald. Then there is W. R. Miller, who was last year president of the Board of Trade of Montreal, and president of the Edwardsburg Starch Company. Then there is George Caverhill, a director of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company, president of Caverhill, Learmont and Company, the largest and oldest hardware company in the district. The next name is that of William McMaster, who is a very important man, a director of the Bank of Montreal and president of the Canada Explosives Company, a man who is doing business with this Government and with the Munitions Board; still he did not hesitate to tell the Government what he thought. The next name is H. W. Blackwell, vice-president of the Merchants Bank and vice-president of the Steel Foundries.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Are there any ordinary every-day citizens on the list?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: No, I think they avoided getting any but the most prominent names. Next is Andrew J. Dawes, a director of the Merchants Bank and president of the National Breweries.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: Are there any prominent men outside of Montreal?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: There is my honourable friend from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. McMeans). The next name on the list is Robert Hampson, president of Hampson & Sons, F. Howard Wilson, director of the Merchants Bank and the Montreal Tramways. James Morgan, president of Henry Morgan & Company, a company which occupies a position in Montreal somewhat similar to that occupied by Eatons in Toronto. George E. Drummond, a director of the Molsons Bank. I have named the activities of these gentlemen from memory. They are all good Conservatives, with the exception perhaps of one. I venture to say that not more than one of these men, if he voted, voted for Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the last election.

Hon. Mr. POPE: They know better than that.