

Divine aid upon the efforts that were being put forth to secure the success of the Union Government. In the light of the election fraud and the wholesale plundering of the public exchequer these prayers might better have been heard from the prophets of Baal than from the lips of Christian ministers. (Hear, hear.) I believe in prayer. I believe in Christianity. But the careless throwing of prayers around as if they were only so many words make things that are sacred seem like sounding brass and tinkling cymbal. (Hear, hear.) While the Union Government was pledged to assist the railway bond plunderers, and by the specially-instructed agents of the Hector McInnes type was sacrificing the honor of the country on an altar of national dishonesty and fraud, fervent prayers to God from Protestant pulpits that the efforts being made to elect such a Government should be blessed is rather a severe test to believers in the good old-fashioned type of religion. (Hear, hear.)

### THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

No country can stand more than a certain amount of political corruption. I will define as one phase of political prostitution the representative of the people who amasses wealth through his influence as a public official or a member of Parliament. He ceases then to retain his freedom of judgment and becomes an easy tool to create wealth for others at the public expense. And the public pay in millions where the individual may only benefit by thousands. Every one knows that this practice has been only too prevalent in the public life of Canada. (Hear, hear.) Sooner or later this ends in national revolution or national bankruptcy. I would not like to say how near we are to either one or the other just now. (Hear, hear.) The revolution in France more than a century ago was the result of corruption among the governing classes. The same reasons forced the revolution in Russia two years ago. I am not an alarmist, but I am satisfied, if the most puritanical form of honesty is not fully established in Canadian public life very soon, you will be painfully surprised at the course events will take. If you don't smash the present system it will smash you. (Applause.)

### WHEN SIR SAM GOT RELIGION.

It is not generally known in Canada that in 1916 Sir Sam Hughes appointed a committee to probe into the Army Headquarters overseas, consisting of Lieut.-Col. McRea, Lieut.-Col. F. A. Reid and Lieut.-Col. Neill. They reported, in very minute detail, that under such management as they proposed the same number of forces as had been overseas in the previous year could be maintained for the following twelve months, and a saving effected of fifty million dollars. With Sir Sam's removal from the Ministry the matter dropped. All the members of this investigating committee were given jobs so as to prevent them returning to Canada or giving the case away.

### BRITISH WAR OFFICE OFFER.

Early in the war the British War Office offered to assume responsibility for the Canadian Ordnance and another branch of the C. E. F. service, free of any cost to the Dominion. This was declined by Ottawa. These services were then and have ever since cost the Dominion \$25,000 per day. The maintenance of these services have cost the country over \$30,000,000. Retaining these services, however, furnished a great field for "safety" jobs for political favorites, costly but convenient. The only conclusion one can arrive at is that the military authorities have been either fools or madmen. (Applause.) It is time that the spirit of the