

most likely to carry, no Nationalist candidate was proposed, but Nationalist support was given the Conservative upon his agreeing to Nationalist conditions. As in the case of the Drummond-Arthabaska by-election the Conservatives did all in their power to elect the Nationalist candidates. But they went farther than in the case of the Drummond-Arthabaska by-election. The alliance in many ways was openly proclaimed. Conservatives in some instances appeared upon the Nationalist platform, and in the Province of Ontario in constituencies where there were a large number of French-Canadian electors, the alliance was evidenced to the extent of Mr. Bourassa, Leader of the Nationalist party, appearing and speaking on behalf of Conservative candidates. Even English-speaking Conservatives who were supported by Mr. Borden in person, but who happened to be in constituencies where there was a considerable French-Canadian vote, came out openly in the presence of Mr. Borden declaring their intention to withhold support from any Government which would attempt to carry out the purport of the resolution of March 1909, without first giving the people an opportunity of pronouncing upon it. For example Mr. James Davidson, of Montreal, a wealthy manufacturer and Conservative candidate in the County of Shefford in the province of Quebec, issued a manifesto which after mentioning that he had been absent from the convention on the day of his nomination, went on to express his desire to declare the course he would pursue if elected. This was set forth in the following words:

"Electors, you are called to pronounce yourselves on two great questions: the Reciprocity and the Navy....."

"I declare that if I am elected on the 21st of September next, I shall work and vote against any Prime Minister of whatever party he may be, who shall continue the present policy of the navy, as voted in 1910, without having previously given to the Canadian people the occasion of pronouncing themselves upon this question by way of plebiscite or special referendum"

Similarly Dr. Pickel, another English-speaking Conservative in the constituency of Missisquoi, where there are many French-Canadians, in an address to the voters in this constituency published in *Le Devoir* August 12th, 1911 said:

"If I am elected, I will give my word and my vote—I declare it emphatically in advance—to obtain the repeal of the Naval Bill. I will vote against any Prime Minister, whether Mr. Borden or anybody else, who will not repeal this Bill in its entirety."

#### **Mr. Borden's Own Attitude Through the Campaign of 1911 and Present Policy Designed to Further Nationalist Ends.**

Mr. Borden himself during the whole of the campaign, very carefully refrained from making anything in the way of a definite promise of assistance to Britain in connection with naval defence. He attacked the Laurier policy, but did not propose one of his own. During the contest he published two important manifestos. In the first, issued to the electors of the Dominion, on the day Parliament dissolved, and the general elections were proclaimed, there was no reference to the navy and much was made of this circumstance in