

as disloyal. I did not class any as disloyal. What I do say is that the severance of the link is going on, not only on the part of my hon. friend from Labelle, but on the part of men who boast the good English names, and I regret to see it. I proposed an amendment this afternoon, but in view of the statement of my leader, I will withdraw it on the understanding that something will be substituted in lieu of it.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. My hon. friends must not be too ready to say hear, hear, to everything that tends to dismember the empire. We want them to understand that there are gentlemen in this House and in the country who have views on this subject that they are not afraid to express. On the understanding that this section is held over and will come up again, possibly till to-morrow morning, I will withdraw my amendment at the present time.

Mr. GOURLEY. In view of the suggestion of the Minister of Finance, I want to call the attention of the Minister of Militia to the wording of his amendment. In the event of the empire being at war, this amendment will not enable you to call parliament, because under it you are only to call parliament in case the militia are called out for active service.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. The government always has power to call parliament.

Mr. GOURLEY. But the amendment is being inserted to justify you in calling it in a certain exigency; but you cannot call parliament until the militia are called out for active service, and you need not call them out in case of a war not immediately affecting Canada. Therefore this amendment is perfectly illusive. The government would say, we will not call parliament because we have not called out the militia for active service, and we do not think we will. This amendment will never do. What you want is power to call parliament within ten days whenever the empire is at war. I am the most peaceful man in the world; but I want to see this country prepared, when the necessity arises, to take a strong part. I only want the interests of the empire conserved. I have no quarrel with the French people. I rather admire them. If men like Champlain and Cartier were in this country to-day, they would be leaders in expressing this sentiment.

Mr. TALBOT. Leave the French alone; they will take care of themselves.

Mr. GOURLEY. The French people in Quebec, I believe, are thoroughly loyal and straight. If there is any thing wrong with them, it is simply that some of their leaders want to make votes. I want this amendment changed so that when there is war in

M. SAM. HUGHES.

the empire, a proclamation will call this parliament to decide whether we shall send troops to that war or not.

Mr. BOURASSA. It seems to me that the government have some disposition to rely on the instructions of the hon. member for North Victoria, the hon. member for Colchester and the hon. member for East York, in framing their policy, instead of relying on the support of their friends. As they seem anxious to have Conservative ideas on the subject, I am going to quote them a Tory authority in support of their position. The very strange assertion has been made that the position taken by the Minister of Militia in the wording of this clause is a new one, that this introduces a new spirit into the organization of the Canadian militia. But I wish to remind the House that in the Militia Act of 1855 the restriction was very stronger than it is now. Section 61 of that Act provided:

The Commander in Chief may call out the militia or any part thereof, whenever it is in his opinion advisable so to do, by reason of war, invasion, or insurrection, or imminent danger of any of them.

And section 75 was as follows:

The militia so called out may be marched to any part of the province, or to any place without the province but coterminous therewith, where the enemy is, and from which an attack on this province is apprehended.

So, under the law of 1855, not only could not the militia of Canada be sent abroad to defend the empire, but if the empire had been at war with Mexico it would have been impossible for the Commander in Chief to send troops to defend Canada against an attack from Mexico. Under the working of the new clause, there is ample room to send the militia anywhere for the defence of Canada. According to that clause the Minister of Militia, no doubt, could send troops to the shores of Newfoundland for the protection of Canada, or in case we should be threatened with attack from Mexico, the minister could send troops, if necessary, even to meet the Mexicans in their own territory. But the restriction in the present has very properly been made, according to the spirit of all our militia laws with the idea that the militia is organized for the defence of Canada. It may be very disloyal for us to assert that principle, but I must say that I have not been very deeply touched by the display of loyalty given by the hon. gentlemen from North Victoria (Mr. Sam. Hughes) and from Colchester (Mr. Gourley). Of course these hon. gentlemen are not like hon. members on this side. They have to make up by their ultra-loyal protestations now for sentiments to which they have previously given utterance. I do not know of any hon. gentleman on this side—and I would like the government to remember that before they take the advice of such gentlemen as the hon. mem-