

them and which they refused to make public so as to prevent the voters from exercising their rights. There are circumstances and things still worse than any I have mentioned, and if they be true, I hope that they will be placed before this House and thoroughly ventilated. The bogus ballot boxes we will not discuss to-day. They are, however, but the outcome of a long series of malpractices which have developed into a political mechanism, the invention of fertile brains, in order to manipulate elections and prevent at the last moment the free expression of the people's will.

My hon. friend made an appeal for cordiality and good feeling and for the repression of race and creed issues. No one would join him more heartily in that appeal than myself. Have we not arrived at a stage in our existence as a people when we ought to be more manly, when we ought to have higher ideals and scorn to appeal to racial and creed issues and prejudices? My hon. friend will join me in the expression of that wish, but is it not a fact that he owes the election to this House of some of his supporters to these very racial and creed cries?

Some hon. MEMBERS. No, no.

Mr. FOSTER. We, I am sure, not only on this side but on that, deplore the absence from this House of my hon. friend from Montmorency (Mr. Casgrain). He was a public man who did credit to his province and this parliament, and the fact that he is not in his seat to-day is not because his policy was not approved of by his constituency, not because his character was unworthy of their confidence, but because of race and creed cries which were raised against him.

Some hon. MEMBER. No, no.

Mr. FOSTER. Some hon. gentleman on the opposite side says 'no, no.' Well, I cite this case as an example which is indicative of a sentiment which in my humble way I am trying to show is not to the benefit of this country. Let us admit that this course was followed without the knowledge of the leaders of the party; yet I submit that he does a public service to this country who brings out of the byways and the lanes into full public notice political trickery of this kind. I believe that my hon. friend has, by a dexterous use of judgements and senatorships, secured to himself an organizer in the province of Quebec. That gentleman is a senator, whose name I shall not mention here. But I believe that in the county of Montmagny there is a newspaper which is certainly controlled, if not owned, by that gentleman. What do I find published in that paper as an advice for the electors of that county? Let me read the following which was published in it and sent broadcast to the electorate:

(Translation.)

Electors and fellow-countrymen of Montmagny, be on your guard!

In their 'mandement' their lordships the bishops say that it is our duty to vote for a man who is able to defend both our religious and national interests. Now, can you, in conscience, vote for a man like Harry Price, a mere clerk in his brother's employ, who does not speak French, an English-speaking protestant, holding the French Canadians in contempt? Let us be spirited men. The Price concern import men from Great Britain to occupy the most important places in their offices. Why not do like them, chiefly when we are called upon to elect a member, and the fate of the Laurier government is at stake?

Once more, let us be on our guard, and shame on the cowards and those who crouch on all fours before money, drink and the crusts of bread thrown by Price, the candidate.

Hurrah for Laurier!

Hurrah for Lavergne.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. FOSTER. Is there any need for an appeal like that in any county in any part of this Dominion of Canada? And was it with the knowledge of the Senatorial organizer of the elections in the district of Quebec? Was it known to my right hon. friend, and if it had not been known to either of these gentlemen, would it have been allowed? Surely then, I am doing a public service in calling their attention to the fact that this was the kind of thing that was done to swell the majority of my right hon. friend. But something more. Here are interrogations in *le Courrier*:

(Translation.)

Do you speak English? Such is the Conservative formula, this year.

October 27, 1904.

Does Mr. Price require from his followers that they should take the test, denounce the sacrifice of the mass and anathematize the Blessed Virgin and the Pope?

Why was a question like that asked? Was it in order to forward the trade policy of hon. gentlemen opposite? Was it to carry the Grand Trunk Pacific? And does my right hon. friend regard it as a lofty, noble canvass? Is this the kind of thing that will join the people of Canada in bonds of amity and will make them a people whose sole aim in public affairs shall be the good of their country? Is this the kind of appeal that will lead to the wide and proper toleration of every creed and every race among our people?

(Translation.)

Is it true, Mr. Price, that you have promised the fanatics of Ontario, Sam. Hughes, Dr. Sproule, Mr. Barker, &c., that you would deliver over to them the splendid and patriotic county of Montmagny, with its population, all French-speaking and deeply Catholic?

October 31, 1904.

Who are these terrible monsters whose names have been invoked in order to swell